

The Leader.

"The one Idea which History exhibits as evermore developing itself into greater distinctness is the Idea of Humanity—the noble endeavour to throw down all the barriers erected between men by prejudice and one-sided views; and by setting aside the distinctions of Religion, Country, and Colour, to treat the whole Human race as one brotherhood, having one great object—the free development of our spiritual nature."—Humboldt's Cosmos.

Contents:

NEWS OF THE WEEK—

	PAGE
The Week in Parliament	386
Letters from Paris	390
Continental Notes	391
The Great Rocket Case	392
The Huddersfield Election	393
New Colonial Bishops	392
Mrs. Beecher Stowe in Scotland	392
Progress of the Sunday Reform	393
Movements	393
Chinese Love-Letters	393

Trial of the Boomerang Propeller	394
"Table Moving" in Vienna	394
Miscellaneous	394
Health of London during the Week	395
Births, Marriages, and Deaths	395

PUBLIC AFFAIRS—

The Gladstone Budget: its Antecedent and Consequences	395
Power of the Working Classes	396
National Arbitration in Practice	397

Cardinal Wiseman and the British Reformation Society	397
How to Improve the Harmony of the Evening	398
Cab Reform	398
"A Stranger" in Parliament	398
A Reformed News Tax	400
Our Great Moral Instructor	400
The Principles of the Budget	400
Prepaid Taxation	401

LITERATURE—

Books on our Table	403
--------------------------	-----

Lord Grey as Colonial Secretary	403
Volumes of Verse	405

THE ARTS—

The Opera	405
French Plays	405
Society of British Artists	405
The Two Lands of Gold	406

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—

City Intelligence, Markets, Advancements, &c.	406-408
--	---------

VOL. IV. No. 161.]

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1853.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THE second and principal part of Mr. Gladstone's financial scheme was explained to the House of Commons, on Monday evening, in a speech of extreme length and masterly clearness. The measure, as a whole, is not exactly what was expected, but, as a whole, it has given considerable satisfaction, although attempts are made to employ part of it as a means of attack against Ministers. Its main features can be briefly described, although its ramifications are minute and innumerable. The revenue is prospering with the country. It was estimated, by the last Chancellor of the Exchequer, at 51,625,000*l.*; that estimate has been exceeded, for the real income of last year was 53,089,000*l.*, and Mr. Gladstone estimates it, for the current year, at 52,990,000*l.* The expenditure, however, is increasing; and a charge that stands conspicuous in it, is that for the militia, which, instead of being something above 300,000*l.*, exceeds 500,000*l.* The net result is, that Mr. Gladstone anticipates a surplus of about 800,000*l.*, partly derived from precarious sources. Although without greater margin, he had determined on an operation of considerable magnitude, and his first object, therefore, is to increase that surplus. He begins by extending the Income-tax down to incomes of 100*l.* a year, and also to Ireland, hitherto exempt. He raises the duty on Scotch and Irish spirits, and imposes fresh duties upon legacies of real property, with an increase in certain licences, whence he anticipates a further revenue of 3,139,000*l.* Large concessions, however, are made to the public. The Income-tax, in the first place, is arranged to diminish to 6*d.* in the pound, at the end of two years, then to 5*d.* at the end of two years more, and to expire in 1860. The newly-taxed incomes will not be rated higher than 5*d.* for the whole time. The duty on tea is reduced to 1*s.* 10*d.*, for one year, to 1*s.* 6*d.* in the following year, 1*s.* 3*d.* in the next, and to remain at 1*s.* Considerable reductions are made in the stamp duties, on life assurance, apprenticeship indentures; attorneys certificates; newspaper advertisement duty; hackney carriage duty; and receipt stamps, the last to be at the uniform rate of 1*d.* Several of the assessed taxes are reduced, and a number of articles of food, apples, cheese, cocoa, eggs, &c., to the number of more than 260, are relieved partially or wholly; the total amount of taxes remitted or reduced being 5,315,000*l.* ultimately, although the immediate reduction will only amount to

2,568,000*l.* The net surplus is calculated at 2,149,000*l.* The public has received this scheme with considerable favour, and if the complication of its details prevents an immediate appreciation of it, in its entirety, the understanding of it advances from day to day with an increase of the satisfaction.

In the city indeed there has been some fluctuation. In the first instance there was immense favour, and the mere enhancement of the funds under an artificial excitement caused a reaction. Then there were rumours of no doubtful character that some section of the Opposition was preparing to resist the Ministry on this Budget. A meeting was held at Lord Derby's last Saturday; it was attended by 200 of the Opposition Members, and it was agreed that Ministers should be opposed on the extension of the Income-tax to Ireland. It is calculated that the Irish members will join the Opposition, and the Tories are already rubbing their hands in anticipation of creating a vacancy in the offices. The very information that mischief is brewing is sufficient to make the gentlemen in the city uneasy, and hence although the Budget is liked, there begins to be a feeling that Ministers are not absolutely safe. Had their conduct been more decidedly popular, it is tolerably certain that this feeling could never have gained ground; for the Budget is liked, and their opponents are not liked. But the fear of dissolution will probably prevail. Meanwhile, the marked success, in both Houses, last night, confirms the prestige of the Cabinet.

The new regulation of the Customs department, explained by Mr. Wilson, is an appendix to the commercial measures of Ministers; it is a thorough reform in the administration of the department, with an important reservation: the Governing Board is to be re-constituted by a supplemental measure.

The late Ministers sufficiently survive in the recollection of the public to be regarded with unfeigned dislike, but if there had been any disposition to reconciliation, the renewed exposure of the proceedings in the Admiralty would have done much harm. The story now comes out distinctly. As Secretary to the Admiralty, Mr. Augustus Stafford endeavoured to reverse the rule laid down in the time when Mr. Parker was Secretary, that the promotion for services should be made through the nomination of the Surveyor of the Navy in the first instance, and on the score of merit alone. He directed the Surveyor to consider that order as cancelled. After he entered office, early last year, wholesale appointments of workmen took place, and in the office of master smith, at Portsmouth, a Mr. Cotsell was very

summarily substituted for a Mr. Wells, who had just been appointed. There is a story that some person at the Admiralty took the document appointing Mr. Wells off the table and put it in his pocket, as a prompt mode of settling that question; a tale unanswered. The key to these proceedings lies in the letter to Sir Baldwin Walker, beginning with the statement that Mr. Stafford's "political friends" were dissatisfied with the manner in which the patronage of the Admiralty was dispensed. In substance, Mr. Stafford's replies are, that the *Liberal* party had previously made appointments not regulated only by professional reasons; that no objection on professional grounds could be made to Mr. Cotsell; and that the communications between himself and Sir Baldwin Walker were in the nature of private and confidential, that is, non-official communications. There had been an imputation on Mr. Stafford's honour as a gentleman, because he had denied receiving a letter which Sir Baldwin had written to him; but it now turns out that Sir Hyde Parker, then senior Naval Lord of the Admiralty, had, in point of fact, suppressed this letter, although he had stated its substance to Mr. Stafford. On the whole, the effect of the correspondence is, that the late Secretary to the Admiralty had made a decided effort to revert to the good old times when official patronage could be used for party purposes; that there was a gay insouciance in the almost open manner with which he pursued this course; and that he treated the checks upon it rather as pragmatical obstructions than as really matters for grave consideration. And the unfortunate coincidence of such conduct in the Secretary of the Admiralty, while the Secretary-at-War indulged in conduct still more flagrant as a tamperer with elections, is brought under notice exactly at the time when some of the worst cases are disclosed before the House of Commons. The leading journal says, with some truth, that the last election was more fertile in corruption than any which had preceded it. We doubt that; but unquestionably the exposures exceed all precedent—exposures which extend into the two great military departments, the Army and Navy.

In his Protestant zeal, Lord Winchelsea has made another attack upon Maynooth; moving for an enquiry into the management of that College, and the effect of its education. In vain Sir Robert Peel endeavoured to place Maynooth, and the whole question that hinges upon it, on a permanent footing, so as to avoid these annual conflicts. Lord Aberdeen did not venture upon

point blank resistance, which would have been the strongest course, but the plan which he did adopt, is not without much to commend it. He conceded the enquiry, but he made it one into the effect of the permanent grant, and he entrusted it to a Royal Commission, instead of a Committee of the House. At last, therefore, we shall have some trustworthy information, in lieu of the exaggerated reports that have been circulated, by the enemies of Maynooth. Possibly, the Commissioners may find some very objectionable books on the shelves of the institution, as they would find on the shelves of other professional institutions, books unfit for general perusal. But it is quite notorious, that the amendment of Maynooth is of a liberalised kind; the professors are more open to charges from the ultramontane party, than the Protestants, and the enquiry will no doubt establish the true relation of the institution to the country, and to the church to which it belongs.

Out of doors, while Barnstaple and Taunton are again called upon for an election, and Maldon is subjected to an enquiry into its corrupt practices, Huddersfield has succeeded in seating Lord Goderich, retrieving the mistake at Hull.

Of striking political events there are none. The meeting at Willis's Rooms, to promote the establishment of Bishoprics in the colonies, is meritorious, on Church of England grounds, and meritorious for its modest proposal, to act upon the self-relying principles. The reception of Mrs. Beecher Stowe, at Glasgow and Edinburgh, the vain attempt of the colonial postage reformers to bring Lord Aberdeen down to 3d., and the successful attempt of the working classes, in various parts of the country, to bring up their wages to the high level, which begins to rule generally, are the principal events. Mrs. Beecher Stowe is the freshest novelty; the flourishing condition of the working classes is the most interesting fact.

While Sardinia is protesting against Austria in the face of Europe; while Turkey is awaiting what comfort she may get from the presence of the English Ambassador, returned to his post at Constantinople; while Holland is moved by popular indignation at the establishment of a territorial hierarchy, under an encyclical letter from the protégé of Austria and France, Pope Pius the Ninth, Spain is suddenly pulled up in her backsliding towards Absolutism. Continuing the attempt of Bravo Murillo, totally to supersede the power of the Cortes by that of the Crown, General Roncali attempted to dissolve the Cortes without the ceremony of passing the annual Budget, an anti-constitutional attempt that resulted in a break-down; and the so-called Liberals are obliged to cede the Government to the Moderate party, under General Lersundi, who is expected to assume at least the appearance of more constitutional courses.

THE WEEK IN PARLIAMENT.

MINISTERS opened another week by one of their greatest feats, the statement of Mr. GLADSTONE, in the House of Commons, on Monday, of

THE BUDGET.

After remarking upon the circumstances which rendered the task before him one of unusual difficulty, he proceeded to set forth, in the first place, the state of the accounts of the country—accounts which gave larger and larger proofs of the elasticity of the revenue. In April, 1852, Mr. Disraeli had taken the revenue for the year at 51,625,000*l.*, but in the following December he had estimated it at 52,325,000*l.*, and it had actually amounted to 53,089,000*l.* The expenditure for the past year had been calculated at 51,163,000*l.*, but it had actually reached only 50,782,000*l.* This gave a surplus of 2,400,000*l.* But whereas the expenditure for 1852-3 had been only 50,782,000*l.*, that for 1853-4 would be 52,183,000*l.*, great part of which was voted, and therefore, in fact, three-fifths of the above surplus were already disposed of. He estimated the revenue for 1853-4 at 52,990,000*l.*, which, after deducting the above estimated expenditure, would show an apparent surplus of 807,000*l.*, of which, however, 220,000*l.* consisted of moneys not arising from permanent or recur-

ring sources. He therefore recommended it as safer to consider the estimated surplus as 700,000*l.* only. Such was the state of the public account. Before approaching the question of the Income-tax, he mentioned that, as regarded the West India interest, Government had not thought that, consistently with their duty to the public, much could be done for its relief, except that, if a reform could be effected in the constitution of Jamaica, a guarantee for its now expensive debt might be given at home. After stating that it was not the intention of the Government to propose the abolition of the Exchequer Loan Fund, which had realized a net balance of 237,000*l.*, the right honourable gentleman proceeded to the subject of the Income-tax.

If the committee determined to put an end to that impost at once, he thought it might be effected by means of three measures—a land and house-tax of 6*d.* in the pound, a system of licenses for trades at an average of 7*l.*, and a change in the legacy-duty system. But he did not recommend this course, because he believed it would give more dissatisfaction than the present tax, and would impede other beneficial reforms. He earnestly appealed to the committee to consider the enormous importance of this subject, reminded them of what the tax had done for the country in bad times, and might do again if it pleased God that such times should return. Had there been the courage to impose this tax earlier, our debt would not have been so large. After a detailed argument to show the value of this fiscal engine, and after urging that, if not destroyed, it might again enable us to defy the world, he described it as a giant originally created by Pitt for the purposes of war, and aroused by Peel for those of peace. It had, in its second life, been the means of achieving, and might be the means of completing, commercial and fiscal reforms. His conclusion was, that it was not desirable at the present moment to dispense with the income tax. But it ought not to be regarded as a source of permanent revenue, especially without the removal of its inequalities. He entered into a scrutiny of the tax, and, taking it at 5,600,000*l.*, and a 28th part of it at 200,000*l.*, he showed that land and houses paid 12-28ths, that trade paid 9-28ths—the two classes together paying three-quarters of the tax—and the funds, salaries, and professions, paying the remainder. Now, the question had been raised whether distinctions were to be drawn between precarious and real income; and, placing trade under the former head, he urged that, in the question of the justice of the present relations between land and trade, must lie the solution of the question whether the income-tax were just in the main. He entered into an elaborate argument in order to answer the inquiry whether there was a difference between the respective payments by land and by trade; and the result of a mass of statistics and estimates showed that while trade paid but 7*d.*, land paid virtually 9*d.* in the pound. After asserting his belief that trade returns were generally fair, he adduced, as an instance of the frauds that were committed, a case, in which 28 persons who claimed an aggregate of 48,000*l.* a-year before a compensation jury, and actually got 27,000*l.*, collectively returned to the Income-tax only 9,000*l.* a-year. He dismissed this part of the subject, with the proposition that there was no case for reconstruction of the tax as regarded the foregoing interests. As regarded schedule E, which comprised the salaries of public servants, he thought it would be better even to make some separate arrangement than to disturb the tax on this account. As to schedule C, affecting the fundholders, he said that he agreed with Mr. Pitt in his interpretation of the words of the Loan Acts, and he emphatically denounced the doctrine of capitalizing the fundowners' income, declaring that it involved an injustice to that class to which he believed the committee would never assent, and which would, he solemnly declared, change our entire relations with those who had trusted us. In regard to the actuary's distinction between industrial and lazy incomes, he said that there was no actually lazy income, except that derived from the funds. He considered that the property of the country was not a subject out of which to raise its income, but that income should supply income, though he would not push this doctrine to extremes; and if we were to have a property tax, let us have an honourable and equal one, as proposed by the actuary. But the propositions of these gentlemen, as applied to an income-tax, he described as a mere mathematical speculation on paper, and not one which could be produced in the House for the consideration of practical men. Then, further examining into the only instance—namely, that of the fundowners—in which a case for reconstruction could be urged, he showed the various classes who held stocks, the immense amount held by persons otherwise than in their own right, and he contended that the reconstruction in this respect would demand an instant and large exemption of the very classes upon whom it was proposed to lay the higher tax. In respect to professions, he

stated that about one twenty-second part of the tax was paid by them, and he expressed his sympathy for the case of professional men, which was an additional reason why the tax should be temporary only. He described the impossibility of arranging exemptions as regarded these classes—described their position as better than that of small tradesmen—and then asked whether brewers, and physicians, and lawyers, were to be exempted, while a heavier tax was to be laid upon desolate and defenceless women with life annuities. Following up the argument of the impossibility of exemptions without breaking up this invaluable tax, he declared that if this were done, it must be by men who took a different view of the duties and exigencies of the country from that of the present Government. He hoped the House would never nibble at the tax. If, as Lord J. Russell had said, the country could not bear a revolution once a year, neither could it bear a reconstruction of the income-tax once a year. He then stated that the intention of Government was to put an end to the undesirable uncertainty on the subject of the tax, and also to mark it as temporary. It was proposed to introduce certain mitigations, to extend the principle of composition to professions, and to let a premium on a deferred annuity or on life assurance be a matter of deduction. By this the tax would lose 130,000*l.* a year. Government itself was to become an assurer of life, as it now was a vender of life annuities. It was proposed to renew the tax for two years, from April, 1853, at 7*d.*; for two more years, from April, 1855, at 6*d.*; and for three more years, from April, 1857, at 5*d.*, by which the tax would expire in April, 1860. It was proposed to renew the tax on the terms of associating it, during the years it had to run, with a great and beneficial remission of taxation. But first the means must be looked to, and the question whether the income-tax, if continued, should also be extended. It was not proposed to trench upon labour, but it was intended to charge incomes between 150*l.* and 100*l.* with 5*d.* in the pound, which would produce about 250,000*l.*, but this year would only bring half that sum. The case of Ireland demanded a special consideration, but there was no reason why the tax should not be levied on that country for the remainder of the term. This would bring 460,000*l.* a year, but this tax also would yield only half the amount for the coming year.

He next approached the legacy duty, which was unjust, and which must be dealt with. He proposed to alter and extend the duty to all cases of successions by death. The scale of consanguinity was to be retained; but relatives by affinity, who now were treated as strangers, and paid 10*l.* per cent., were in future to be placed on the same footing with blood relations. The exemption of real property was no longer to exist, nor was that of settlement. A new distinction was to be created, and every advantage was to be given to rateable over non-rateable property, the succession to the former of which was to be taxed on the life interest, after deducting incumbrances. The first year's produce would be small, for legal reasons, and would not exceed 500,000*l.*, but would afterwards be greatly increased, making a permanent accession to the revenue of two millions per annum, and giving to intelligence more relief than could be contemplated by the reconstruction of the income-tax.

For the present the English spirit duties must stand over, but a shilling was to be added on those in Scotland, which would give 318,000*l.*, and an allowance was to be made for waste on spirits in bond there and in Ireland, in which latter country the revenue department was to be improved by aid of the constabulary and an additional duty of 8*d.*, the net gain being 198,000*l.* The allowance for waste was to extend to England, and the total gain on the spirits would be 496,000*l.* A new system of licences would give a new 113,000*l.* All these amounts, with the surplus, would give for remission of taxes 2,149,000*l.* After dwelling upon the advantage of establishing an equal system of taxation in Ireland and England, he said that Government proposed that the Irish Consolidated Annuities should be wholly wiped away as from and after the 29th September last.

He was now at the top of the Alps, and the plains of Italy—remission of taxes—lay before him. The first case was one of excise. The soap-tax—the repeal of which would, as he showed, indirectly do much to extinguish the slave-trade by developing a legitimate traffic in palm-oil—was to be abolished in July. In stamps, the tax on life assurances to be reduced from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 6*d.* Receipt stamps to be abolished, and 1*d.* stamps, to be written over, to be used instead. Apprenticeship indentures, without consideration, to be reduced from 20*s.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* In consideration that legislative measures have interfered with the business of attorneys the certificate duty to be reduced from 12*l.* and 8*l.* to 9*l.* and 6*l.*, and the duty on articles of clerkship from

120*l.* to 80*l.* Advertisement duties to be reduced from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 6*d.*, and, instead of taking off the balance, to take off the stamp upon newspaper supplements. There was also to be a reduction for the benefit of hackney carriage owners, as a reduction was about to be made in their fares by Mr. Fitzroy. Reform in the assessed taxes was intended in regard to the duties on servants, private carriages, horses, and dogs, which were to be respectively brought to uniform rates. The post-horse duty was in future to be levied in the form of licences, and much reduced. The arrangement for the redemption of land-tax was also to be on a new footing. But these alterations, except the post-horse duty, could not come into effect this year. He then came to the Customs duties. There was to be no change as regarded wine, and he held out no prospect of any change taking place at an early date. As to tea, the duty was to be at once reduced from 2*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.*, and then to 1*s.* 6*d.*, to 1*s.* 3*d.*, and ultimately to 1*s.*—the reduction to the latter sum being effected in something less than three years. The Customs tariff had generally received the benefit of a revision, and he announced the reduction of duties on butter, cheese, apples, cocoa, nuts, eggs, oranges, lemons, and raisins; the abolition of duties on 123 articles, and the reduction on 133 others. Rated, instead of *ad valorem*, duties were to be levied in other cases. He announced, amid loud cheering, that the remissions of Excise duties amounted to 771,000*l.* net, and that in Customs to 658,000*l.*, and that the total remission of taxes amounted to 2,568,000*l.*, involving a loss to the revenue of 1,656,000*l.*; and he summed up the statement of the public account by announcing a small surplus of 493,000*l.*, of which, as before stated, 200,000*l.* does not arise from permanent income. He then went into other statistics to show the result of the proposed system throughout the years to be affected, and while proving that there would be a gross remission of 5,384,000*l.*, he stated that the object of the Government had been to give such an increased power of consumption as would increase the stability of our financial system, and would lay such a basis as might enable the Parliament of 1860 to dispense with the income-tax, then to expire; for he demonstrated that against the 6,000,000*l.* of the income-tax could then be set a new income of 5,959,000*l.* Government had therefore redeemed its pledge of showing how that tax might be done away.

He concluded a most lucid address, of nearly five hours' duration, by an eloquent peroration in vindication of the objects of the Administration, and of the means by which it had sought to achieve them.

"I am afraid, sir, almost to look at the clock—(loud cheers)—which painfully reminds me how long I have trespassed on the time of this House. All I can say in apology is, that I have endeavoured to keep closely to the topics which I wished to lay before the committee. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

"*Sei nos immensum spatium conficimus equor,
Et jam tempus equum fumantia solvere colla.*"

(Renewed cheers.) These, sir, are the propositions of the Government. They may be approved, or they may be condemned; but of this I feel confident, that it may be admitted that we have not sought to avoid the difficulties of our position; that we have not concealed them either from ourselves or from others; that we have not attempted to counteract them by narrow and flimsy expedients; that we have proposed plans which, if you will adopt them, will go some way towards closing up many vexed financial questions, that, unless they be now settled, may be attended with public inconvenience and even public danger in future years, and under circumstances less favourable than the present for their adjustment; we have endeavoured, in short, in the plans we submit, to make the path of our successors in future years not more arduous but more easy. (Loud cheers.) And I may be permitted to add, that while we have sought to do justice by the changes we propose in taxation, to intelligence and skill, as compared with property—while we have sought to do justice to the great labouring community of England by further relief from indirect taxation—we have not been guided in the main by thoughts about one class or about another, but that we have felt we should best maintain our own honour, best meet the views of Parliament, best promote the interests of the country, by declining to draw invidious distinctions between class and class, by adopting it as our sacred aim to diffuse and distribute—burdens if we must—with an equal and impartial hand; and we have consolation in believing that by proposals like these we contribute, as far as in us lies, not only to develop the material resources of the country, but likewise to knit the hearts of this great nation to that Throne and those institutions under which it is our happiness to live."

Loud and long rang the cheers of members, when, much exhausted, Mr. Gladstone resumed his seat, having spoken for upwards of five hours.

In answer to Mr. DISRAELI, Mr. GLADSTONE proposed to lay all his resolutions on the table at once, and to take the Income-tax discussion on Monday next, to be followed by that on the legacy and then on the spirit duty. Mr. HUME thanked the Chancellor of the Exchequer for his many remissions, and for his adherence to the principles of Free-trade, and expressed his regret

that any new taxation should be imposed, and that a sound Property-tax was not to be imposed. Mr. E. BALL complained that the Malt-tax was not to be repealed.

The House resumed; and the discussion was fixed for Monday; taking, first, the Income-tax, then the legacy duties, and then the spirit duties.

CONCISE STATEMENT OF THE BUDGET.

We append the following concise account of the Budget, extracted from the City article of the *Times* of Wednesday, and dated the previous day. It presents a much better idea of the propositions, as a whole, than can be obtained by the inexperienced financialist from the speech of the financial minister.

The Budget of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, taken as a whole, has been received to-day in the city with almost universal favour. Setting aside the Income-tax question, in connexion with which the public, as in 1842, are willing to submit to unadjusted grievances for the sake of great commercial ends, few of its points have called for criticism, since the general propriety of each of the proposed modifications is unequivocally admitted, and even those persons who would have preferred other remissions see that, by the removal of the claims now dealt with, the road is cleared for the inevitable success of their future exertions. Although, perhaps, no previous financial statement ever announced a greater variety of intended changes, the fact of these changes being harmonious in principle renders it easy to set them forth without complicated remarks. Hence a comprehensive glance at the entire scheme may readily be given in a few paragraphs. It appears that the revenue of the present year is estimated at 52,990,000*l.*, viz.:

Customs	£20,680,000
Excise	14,640,000
Stamps	6,700,000
Taxes	3,250,000
Income-tax	5,550,000
Post-office	900,000
Crown Lands	390,000
Miscellaneous	320,000
Old Stores	460,000
Anticipated saving from the contemplated measures for the reduction of the Three per Cents.	100,000
	£52,990,000

and that the estimated expenditure is:—

Funded Debt	£27,500,000
Unfunded ditto	304,000
	27,804,000
Consolidated Fund	2,503,000
Army	6,025,000
Navy	6,235,000
Ordnance	3,053,000
Miscellaneous	4,476,000
Commissariat	557,000
Militia	530,000
Caffre War	200,000
Packet Service	800,000
	52,183,000

Surplus £807,000
This surplus of 807,000*l.* (or in round numbers, 805,000*l.*) it is proposed to increase to 2,149,000*l.* by new taxes, which will yield 1,344,000*l.* during the present year, and whose ultimate production is anticipated to be as follows:—

Extension of income-tax to all incomes between 100 <i>l.</i> and 150 <i>l.</i> per annum, at the rate of 5 <i>d.</i> per pound	£250,000
[The tax to remain at its present rate of 7 <i>d.</i> per pound on incomes above that amount until April, 1855; then to fall to 6 <i>d.</i> till 1857; and then to be 5 <i>d.</i> till 1860, when it will expire.]	
Extension of income-tax to Ireland	460,000
	£710,000

From this is to be deducted the loss by exempting from tax all sums of income devoted to the purposes of life assurance, estimated at

	120,000
Net increase of income-tax	£590,000
Extension of legacy duty to real property	2,000,000
Increase of 1 <i>s.</i> per gallon in duty on Scotch spirits, namely, from 3 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i>	£318,000
Less allowance for waste on spirits in bond	40,000
	£278,000

Increase of 8 <i>d.</i> per gallon on Irish spirits, namely, from 2 <i>s.</i> 8 <i>d.</i> to 3 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>	£238,000
Less allowance as above	40,000
	198,000

Less allowance for waste in England	40,000
	438,000

Increase from alteration in scale of licenses to brewers, and dealers in tea, coffee, tobacco, and soap	113,000
	£551,000

The total gain from these new sources will therefore be 3,139,000*l.* From this, however, must be deducted the

interest upon 4,000,000*l.*, the amount of the debt due from Ireland in connexion with the establishment of the Poor Law system and the visitation of the famine, which it is proposed entirely to forego, and for which she has hitherto been liable to an annual charge of 245,000*l.*

On the other hand, the intended reduction of taxation may be stated as follows:—

EXCISE.

Abolition of the soap-tax £1,126,000

STAMPS.

Reduction of the duty on life assurance from 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per cent. to 6 <i>d.</i> per cent.	20,000
Reduction of receipt stamps from the present scale, ranging from 3 <i>d.</i> to 10 <i>s.</i> to a uniform rate of one penny	155,000
Reduction of duty on indentures of apprenticeship from 20 <i>s.</i> to 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	
Ditto on attorneys' certificates from 12 <i>l.</i> and 8 <i>l.</i> to 9 <i>l.</i> and 6 <i>l.</i> , and on articles of apprenticeship from 120 <i>l.</i> to 80 <i>l.</i>	50,000
Reduction of advertisement duty from 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> to 6 <i>d.</i> , and abolition of stamp duties upon newspaper supplements	160,000
Reduction of duty on hackney carriages from 1 <i>s.</i> 5 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> per day	26,000

ASSESSED TAXES.

Reduction of tax on men-servants to a uniform rate of 1 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> on servants above 18 years of age, and of 10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> on servants under 18	87,000
Ditto on private carriages to 3 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> , and 15 <i>s.</i>	95,000
Ditto on horses and ponies to 1 <i>l.</i> 1 <i>s.</i> and 10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>	£118,000
Less alteration of duty on dogs from 1 <i>s.</i> and 6 <i>s.</i> to a uniform rate of 12 <i>s.</i>	10,000
	108,000
Alteration in the post-horse duties, substituting licenses for horses and carriages in lieu of tax on mileage	54,000
Reduction of 17½ per cent. in charge for redemption of land-tax	Not estimated.

POST-OFFICE.

Reduction of colonial postage to a uniform rate of 6 <i>d.</i>	40,000
--	--------

CUSTOMS.

Reduction of the tea duty from 2 <i>s.</i> 2 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> 10 <i>d.</i> till 5th April, 1854. The duty to descend to 1 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> in the following year, to 1 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> the next year, and thereafter to 1 <i>s.</i>	3,000,000
Ditto of duties on apples, from 2 <i>s.</i> to 3 <i>d.</i> per bushel; cheese, from 5 <i>s.</i> to 2 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i> per cwt.; cocoa, from 2 <i>d.</i> to 1 <i>d.</i> per lb.; nuts, from 2 <i>s.</i> to 1 <i>s.</i> per bushel; eggs, from 10 <i>d.</i> to 4 <i>d.</i> per 120; oranges and lemons, to 8 <i>d.</i> per bushel; butter, from 10 <i>s.</i> to 5 <i>s.</i> per cwt.; and raisins, from 15 <i>s.</i> 9 <i>d.</i> to 10 <i>s.</i> per cwt.	262,000
Ditto of duties on 133 minor articles of food	70,000
Abolition of duties on 123 ditto	53,000
	£3,315,000

"The total amount of relief thus to be afforded is," continues the *Times*, "in round numbers, 5,300,000*l.*, but for the present year it will be limited to 2,568,000*l.*, while the loss to the revenue, after allowing for increased consumption, will be 1,656,000*l.* To meet that loss, the new taxes for the same period will produce 1,344,000*l.*, making, with the surplus already calculated of 805,000*l.*, an available aggregate of 2,149,000*l.*, and, therefore, on the 5th April, 1854, a favourable balance of 493,000*l.* is still to be anticipated. In attaining this immediate result the prospects of the future have been rendered still more bright. In 1854, the balance between the taxes imposed and those taken off will give an additional 220,000*l.* in favour of the country; and between that period and 1860, when the 6,140,000*l.* of Income-tax is to be surrendered, the saving from the reduction of the Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, and the lapse of the Long Annuities, and of a large amount of terminable annuities, will have been sufficient to render its reimposition unnecessary. Meanwhile, however, according to past experience, the revenue will have entirely recovered itself, so that these savings, as they accrue, will, in fact, be applicable to new reductions. Under all circumstances, therefore, it is impossible to conceive that any effort to obstruct or cripple the plan is likely to be attempted. In the Stock Exchange to-day there seemed to be a feeling that, by some combination against the extension of the Income-tax to Ireland, a peril of this sort might be occasioned, but, looking at the permanent remission of 4,000,000*l.* of debt proposed to be granted to that country, while the Income-tax is only for a limited period, the adjustment appears too profitable to challenge opposition, to say nothing of the approval it would receive on account of its inherent justice in any appeal upon the question that might be made to the nation. Another consideration that affected the funds this afternoon, was derived from the fact that, owing to the vigorous extension of Free-trade principles, to which the resources of the revenue are now again to be devoted, there are not likely, after the present quarter, to be any very heavy sums appli-

cable to the absorption of stock for the reduction of the national debt. Large purchases, also, had been previously made in anticipation of the prosperous figures that were to be communicated, and a slight tendency to reaction was, therefore, to be expected."

CUSTOMS REFORM.

This important subject, forming a necessary supplement to the Budget, was treated by Mr. WILSON, on Thursday, when he announced some important alterations of the existing system, of which the following is a summary.

The first topic related to the constitution of the Board of Customs, with regard to which subject the Government had not yet arrived at a decision. With regard to the second topic, relating to the appointment and promotion of Custom-house officers, the Government recommended that facilities should be given to enable officers belonging to the humbler departments to enter those of a higher grade; and they accordingly proposed, that when a superintending locker (or any other subordinate officer, as he subsequently explained) should have served for three years, he should be entitled to undergo an examination, and become eligible for the higher ranks. The next point related to fines and satisfaction. With regard to fines, the Government could recommend their abolition, but they distinctly put an end to the principal evil complained of, by abolishing the interest at present enjoyed by the particular officers in fines and justifications, or from the sale of goods detained for duties. Ad valorem duties had also received the attention of the committee. These duties the Government considered might be eventually removed altogether, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his budget had acted in accordance with that belief. With regard to the complaints relating to seizures and stoppages, and adjudications thereupon, he reminded the House that the Board of Customs had given directions that no vessels should be seized or stopped without a written notice to the owner, stating the grounds of the detention; and also that any person having his goods detained, or any complaint lodged against him, should be heard in open court, before one of the commissioners, the witnesses on both sides being examined on oath. With those arrangements, as far as London was concerned, the Government entirely concurred; they were, however, inapplicable to the outports, where the Government proposed to supply their place by providing that such inquiries should take place before the authorities of the port where the circumstances might arise. The law of costs and penalties next received his attention. Taking into consideration the complaints urged upon this subject, the Government proposed that only when the Crown succeeded in a prosecution should it have a claim for costs—an arrangement by which the Crown was placed upon an equality with the subject. That in all cases not involving a sum of more than 100*l.*, it should be imperative on the Crown to resort to the County Court, or some other local tribunal, leaving the option with the defendant to remove the case into a higher court if he thought fit; and that cases involving a larger amount than 100*l.* might be decided by local tribunals under certain circumstances. Also, that every action should be brought in a regular manner, by the Board of Customs, and not by the particular officers concerned in the case; and that the limit of time allowed for bringing the action for damages should be extended to one month after the determination of the case. One of the recommendations of the committee related to the question of transit. According to an arrangement which had been tried successfully for two years, all goods coming to the country *in transitu*, might be landed, placed on the railway vans, and carried, under the superintendence of a Custom-house officer, to another port, and there re-exported without ever having been touched. The Government were sensible that every facility should be given to our shipping to become the carriers of the world; and they had recommended the Commissioners of Customs accordingly. The committee recommended that similar facilities should be given to coasting vessels; but this course (except in the case of goods that had been examined) the Government considered would be attended with great danger to the revenue, and unjust to fair traders. They also recommended that arms should not be carried backwards and forwards without an order from the Treasury. With regard to another recommendation of the committee—that a vessel should not be stopped for smuggling, unless one of the principal officers was implicated in the offence—he thought that the case was met by the existing law, but was willing to deal with it if necessary. Objections had been made to the present bonding regulations, to meet which the Government proposed that the importer should be liable for duty; but that in parting with his goods he might re-enter them, that they should then be re-measured, weighed, or gauged, as the case might be; and that the importer should then be responsible only for any deficiency which might—from whatever cause—have taken place during the period of bondage. The Government also proposed that the Board of Customs should be obliged to take stock periodically; and that the three classes of warehouses existing at present should all be united into one class. Taking into consideration the inconvenience complained of with regard to the examination of luggage, they proposed that in all cases where only one or two packages were concerned, the examination might take place on the steambat between Gravesend and London, and that in any case one package might be examined, so that the passenger might be enabled to pursue his journey without delay. The next point was a very important one, relating to facilitating the entrance of free goods. The committee recommended that the ship's manifest, and the entry of the consignee should be sent to the landing waiter as the sole authority on which he should act; but this system, he contended, would be giving an impunity and encouragement to smuggling, which would be productive of the most dangerous consequences. They proposed, however, as far as possible, to meet the objects

of the committee, by having a room specially set apart for the examination of free goods. Those were the principal recommendations of the Government, who proposed to include all Customs regulations in one general bill. They also proposed (pending the settlement of the question of the construction of the Customs Board) to give to Liverpool a privilege demanded by its increasing importance; namely, power to its local authorities to decide, without appealing to the Board, in all cases not exceeding 100*l.* The last proposition related to certain changes in the Isle of Man, by the abolition of the licensing system; to raise the rates of duties upon spirits; and to permit importation to any extent whatever.

A general and approving conversation followed. Mr. Wilson presented some papers, which were ordered to be printed.

THE NATIONAL DEBT BILL.

The House having resolved itself into a Committee, last night, upon the South Sea and other Annuities' Commutation Bill, on arriving at the second clause, which provides that proprietors of the South Sea Stock and other minor 3 per cent. stocks may for every 100*l.* receive 82*l.* 10*s.* new 3½ per cent., or 110*l.* new 2½ per cent., both guaranteed for forty years; or an Exchequer bond for 100*l.*, bearing interest at 2½ per cent. until 1864, and 2½ per cent. until 1894.

Sir F. KELLY characterised the whole scheme contained in the bill as inconsistent, impracticable, mischievous, and unjust, and declared he should oppose this part of it, as making a large and substantial addition to the national debt, under circumstances which led to a reasonable apprehension that the principle would be applied to the whole debt, unless Mr. GLADSTONE consented so far to modify the bill as to strike out the second alternative. The alternatives, he contended, were not equivalent, and the Government should have proceeded, like preceding Administrations in similar cases, to invite tenders, instead of which, they had framed propositions upon data of their own, founded upon assumptions of what would be the state of the money-market in after years. If there was no other objection to the scheme than that it augmented the capital of the debt—a proceeding wholly unjustifiable, except in extreme emergencies—it would be insuperable. He repudiated the theory of Mr. Gladstone, that what was termed the national debt consisted of perpetual annuities, observing that, if this were true, it was immaterial whether the capital of the debt was 500,000,000*l.* or 1,000,000,000*l.*; but to add 10 per cent. to a portion of the nominal capital, which it would be necessary at some time to pay off in full, was a great injustice to the country. Independent of this objection, he argued that the disparity between the alternatives No. 2 and No. 3 was fatal to the scheme. Aware of the object in view, to create a 2½ per cent. stock, he felt the great importance of not increasing the capital of the debt, and called upon the Government to expunge the second alternative.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER observed, that the views of Sir Fitzroy were based upon a fallacious theory of monetary affairs, differing altogether from those upon which the Government had framed this bill. As to striking out one of the alternatives, it would be most unfortunate, he said, if Parliament should send him to the money-market with a maimed and impracticable scheme. Sir F. Kelly had supposed that the scheme was to be applied to the whole debt. But it was not so; the object was only to establish a 2½ per cent. stock. It was objected that the three alternatives were not equivalent; but their relative values depended not merely upon figures, other elements entering into the calculation. The Exchequer bonds would not suffice to establish a 2½ per cent. stock, and that was the reason why the new 2½ per cent. was created. With regard to the alleged increase of the capital of the debt by the latter expedient, which Sir F. Kelly supposed to be a violation of a great constitutional principle, the opinion that the capital of the debt should not be increased was a useful one, in which he was ready to concur, but the debt was constantly receiving accretions without opposition, and no alternative had been presented to him except the second named in the bill—the creation of a guaranteed new 2½ per cent. stock at a premium—which would have attained the object of establishing a 2½ per cent. stock with a less augmentation of the nominal capital of the debt; but he suggested that the annual saving of 5*s.* per 100*l.* from the conversion might be postponed, and applied to the extinction of the capital added to the debt.

Mr. T. BARING protested against any addition to the capital of the debt, and thought that this was not exactly the moment for a permanent reduction of the interest, and, if it had been, that the mode proposed, the leading features of which he cursorily noticed, was too complicated, while in the time of our prosperity it would add to our liabilities and engagements.

The scheme, in the whole and in its parts, was reviewed by Mr. W. WILLIAMS, Mr. LAING, Captain

LAFFAN, Mr. J. B. SMITH, Mr. J. A. SMITH, Mr. HUME, and other hon. members.

Mr. DISRAELI observed, that the plan of the Government, if completed, could, at the utmost, save no more than 600,000*l.* a-year, with a guarantee that might entail a loss, and contrasted very unfavourably with preceding financial arrangements, especially in respect to the guarantee, the most important feature of the present plan. He objected that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had settled the terms of the operation, whereas it was his duty to have thrown upon the public creditor the responsibility of offering terms. A 2½ per cent. stock could be created at any time; its policy depended upon terms and time, and, in his opinion, Mr. Gladstone, though ingenious, had been premature. The prospects of the rate of interest were uncertain; new phenomena were hourly appearing, and although before these changes, which had confounded the greatest financiers, the most successful of our Chancellors of the Exchequer had never contemplated a guarantee beyond twenty years, a guarantee of forty years was now proposed for a conversion which, if perfectly fulfilled, would save only 600,000*l.* a-year. Under these circumstances, he entreated the Committee to pause before it sanctioned, not a measure of necessity, but a financial caprice, which, even that night, was still undergoing important modifications, showing that the scheme had not been sufficiently matured; and he recommended the Government to give the subject more time and thought.

Mr. GOULBURN accused Mr. Disraeli of endeavouring, in his anxiety to depreciate the plan of the Government, to give fallacious representations of former financial operations. With respect to the guarantee, in proportion as advances were made in the reduction of the interest of the debt, corresponding advantages must be given to reconcile parties to the sacrifice. The Government, with the view of creating a 2½ per cent. stock, were right in offering alternatives, the public creditors being of different classes; and as to the alterations made in the plan, none of them infringed its principle. He trusted the Committee would assent to the Bill, which would lay a foundation for future reductions of the debt.

Sir J. PAKINGTON cited a speech of Mr. Goulburn in 1844, which was in apparent incongruity with his present sentiments.

Sir F. KELLY made a brief reply, and, upon a division, his amendment was negatived by 234 against 175.

All the clauses were then agreed to.

DOCKYARD APPOINTMENTS.

The manner in which the late Government managed the dockyard appointments was discussed on Tuesday.

Sir B. HALL introduced the subject, stating that his object was to show, that the Tory Government had, in view of the late general election, improperly exercised their dockyard patronage. The following were the facts of the case. In February, 1847, the then Admiralty (Whig) had addressed a circular to the dockyard officers, pointing out many shortcomings in the general workings of the establishments, compared with private yards, and attributing this state of things to the manner of promotion: the rise from shipwright to leading man, and from leading man to inspector, was regarded rather as a matter of accident or favour, than as a reward due to merit, and to be dispensed upon plain and equitable principles. They therefore laid down certain rules, whereby promotion would be made in a regular way, according to merit; and, to further this, they gave up their own power of direct appointment, vesting the consideration of vacancies, promotions, and changes, in the Surveyor of the Navy, making him responsible for all expenditure. Increased efficiency, and a saving of 190,000*l.* a year, resulted from this movement. When the Derby Government came into power, a change took place. Five weeks after their accession, when a general election was monthly expected, Mr. Stafford, Secretary to the Admiralty, told the Surveyor of the Navy, Sir Baldwin Walker, that his "political friends" were dissatisfied at the manner in which the dockyard promotions were made. A few days after, Mr. Stafford issued an order, cancelling the arrangement which committed the consideration of vacancies to the Surveyor of the Navy, and directing that the old plan of consideration by the Admiralty itself should be reverted to. Sir Baldwin Walker, taking the verbal complaint, and this retraction of the patronage, as an imputation on his conduct, tendered his resignation. With reference to this offered resignation, another Admiralty circular was issued. It stated that no imputation on Sir Baldwin Walker was intended by the former circular, that the rules of 1847, regulating promotion by merit, were to be strictly adhered to, but that the Admiralty itself, and not the Surveyor of the Navy, would carry them into execution. Acting on this change, the Der-

by Government flooded the dockyards with new employees, evidently nominated through political influence, many of them being incompetent. The number of new appointments was immense, beyond precedent or subsequent parallel. For the three months and nineteen days of 1852, ending 19th April, the appointments in the Devonport dockyard had been but nine; for the remainder of the year, (eight months and eleven days,) under the operation of the new Tory regulation, they numbered 112; (while, this year, under Sir James Graham, the appointments have been as yet but two.) Also, in 1852, competent men were removed for no fault, and Conservative voters were appointed. In May, Sir Baldwin Walker wrote to the Duke of Northumberland, protesting against these practices. He complained that the withdrawal of patronage from the Surveyor, prevented all proper check on expenditure, that promotion for merit had been virtually set aside, for promotion on political grounds, and that, "in one instance," an incompetent person had been appointed. This letter was not noticed by the Admiralty, although Sir Baldwin Walker was an honourable man, of high official standing. Sir Baldwin Walker's former letter, tendering his resignation, had also remained officially unnoticed; and, in November, Mr. Stafford stated, in the House, that "no tender of resignation had been made." The discrepancy between Sir Baldwin Walker and Mr. Stafford, respecting this letter, should be cleared up. A particular case of promotion for political purposes was that of Cotsell. It had been ruled that the master-smith of Portsmouth-dockyard should be selected from private trade, and in November, 1852, the Surveyor of the Navy was informed that a Mr. Wells was appointed, and Wells accordingly filled the post for twenty-one days, although the warrant for his appointment had not arrived. Meanwhile, Cotsell, (an employé at Chatham-dockyard, but more distinguished as an election orator for Sir F. Smith, the Conservative candidate,) hearing of the appointment of Wells, hurried up to the Admiralty, saw there "a friend," who on hearing of his business, said, "You are just in time;" showed him Wells's appointment made out and lying on the table. This is stated from Cotsell himself by an intimate private acquaintance. Wells was superseded; Cotsell was appointed; and when Wells complained, he was told by the Admiralty that he had never received any "appointment from them." But Cotsell's promotion from Chatham to Portsmouth gave more than one opportunity of patronage, for political motives, to the Government. Four promotions took place. Cotsell went from Chatham to Portsmouth; Smale, who gave a plumper at Woolwich, was sent to Chatham; Forbes's friends at Sheerness voted for the Conservative candidate, and Forbes was sent to Woolwich; Bayley, who, with his brother, voted the same way, was sent from Woolwich to Sheerness. Mr. Stafford had in addition personally displayed himself as a partisan of Conservative candidates. At Chatham, while on a professedly official tour of inspection, he walked round the dockyard with Sir Frederick Smith. At Deptford, while the men were being mustered, he took his stand in the yard, in company with Mr. Peter Rolt, the Conservative candidate, whom he introduced to some of the officers having votes. A letter from a working man says:—

"They (Mr. Stafford and Mr. Rolt) attended at the muster-office when all the men returned from dinner, so that we should not be ignorant that Mr. Rolt was the secretary's special friend. A wink being as good as a nod to a blind horse, the most stupid of us could not misunderstand the motive nor the consequence of our stupidity. Even our wives were shrewd enough to advise us to be on the safe side."

At Devonport, Mr. Stafford walked round the dockyards arm in arm with the two Conservative candidates. They then stood together at the muster-office where the men deposit their tickets on leaving the yard, so that each man singly must pass before them. In the evening of the same day, the secretary gave a dinner at Moorshead Hotel, at which were present the two Conservative candidates, the chairman of their committee at Devonport, the chairman of their committee at Stonehouse, the two attorneys acting as electioneering agents for the Tory candidates, and the chairman of the committee of the Tory candidate at Plymouth, and a Mr. Triscott, storekeeper of the victualling-yard, who was a most active partisan, and canvassed the votes in the yard in favour of the Tory candidates. Was not this an electioneering dinner? But at Portsmouth, Mr. Stafford had not supervised the mustering of the men. Why? Because there, there was no contested election, and no Conservative candidate. Sir B. Hall then moved for a select committee to inquire into the matters he had stated, and generally into the manner in which the Admiralty patronage had been exercised since 19th April, 1852, in the dockyards connected with boroughs.

Mr. STAFFORD, replying to the charges, first ex-

plained the discrepancy between Sir Baldwin Walker's letter tendering resignation and his own statement in the House, that no resignation had been tendered. "To the best of his belief," Mr. Stafford never even saw that letter. But one morning, (26th April, 1852,) the Duke of Northumberland told him that Sir Baldwin Walker was annoyed at the circular of the 19th (reclaiming the Admiralty power of appointment), and that the Surveyor would probably resign unless the supposed stigma were removed. Mr. Stafford then drew up a rough draft of the circular of the 26th April, disclaiming any imputation on the Surveyor of the Navy. In presence of Admiral Hyde Parker, Mr. Stafford showed the draft to Sir Baldwin Walker, who appeared satisfied, and then Admiral Parker considering the matter settled, destroyed Sir Baldwin Walker's letter tendering resignation, which had been handed to the Admiral for transmission to Mr. Stafford. When asked in the House, was any resignation offered, Mr. Stafford, finding no record of such an offer, and remembering no such offer, replied there was none. With respect to the letter from Sir Baldwin Walker to the Duke of Northumberland, dated 10th of May, complaining of the new way of appointing men, the Duke had made no record of it; the record of letters addressed to the First Lord was discretionary with him, his correspondence being often confidential. Mr. Stafford then stated why the circular resuming the Admiralty consideration of vacancies and appointments, had been issued. In 1847, when the Whigs found their power declining, they invented a system which would enable them to retain their control over the dockyards, even when out of office. Their influence had penetrated into every hole and corner; Conservatives were frequently passed over, or sometimes overworked, [a laugh,] and the corrupt sale of offices was introduced, especially into the Channel dockyards. The candidate used to bet, with a person of influence, that he would not get the vacant appointment. If the bet were *appropriately* large, he generally got the appointment, and cheerfully paid over the amount. Seeing this system, Mr. Stafford established direct communication between the Admiralty and the dockyard superintendent. Mr. Sidney Herbert and Sir C. Wood when at the Admiralty, did the same; and Lord Auckland and Sir H. Ward had formerly sanctioned the practice. The result of the change he had made, was the transfer of responsibility from an over-worked office, (that of Surveyor of the Navy,) to the shoulders of the Secretary of the Admiralty. As to the alleged increased expense, the dockyard expenditure for the financial year of the late Government, was in the same ratio as that for the previous year. As to there having been too many new appointments made under his Secretaryship, he was no judge as to the proper number; as to the qualifications of the men, the commodores always concurred in them: and they were honourable men, who would not consent to political jobbing, or the appointment of unfit men. Mr. Stafford then referred to minor individual cases, showing that the commodores, in many cases, had flatly rejected Admiralty recommendations. Respecting the case of Wells and Cotsell, the Admiralty informed Sir Baldwin Walker, that Wells, recommended by him, would be appointed master smith, at Portsmouth; but they did not think that information would be communicated to Wells. The Admiralty, shortly afterwards, "changed its mind," and appointed Cotsell. Wells first stated that he had received his appointment in an interview with Sir Baldwin Walker; he afterwards said he had got it in a letter; but it was extraordinary in Sir Baldwin Walker to make an informal communication of the kind, without informing the Board. Then, Cotsell was a tried man of ability, Wells was untried: his patron, however, was Mr. Forbes Mackenzie, whom Wells had warmly supported at Liverpool; and Mr. Forbes Mackenzie had complained to Mr. Stafford, of the treatment of his supporter.

"He had had a long interview at the Treasury with his honourable friend; and to do his friend justice he should say that he had never in his lifetime seen a man evince less care for the dockyards. He had pretty plainly intimated, that as the Treasury was the senior department, the Admiralty ought to knock under to it." (A laugh.) But the Admiralty did not knock under; they had cared for the efficiency of the dockyards, and had respected the feelings of the dockyard officers, who were proud and loyal men. As to the general charges of Government interference in dockyard borough elections, Chatham alone had petitioned against the election return. He admitted that it would have been better for him not to have walked through the dockyards with the candidates, but he never had had political conversations with any of the officers, save to tell them that they might act as they liked.

A warm debate ensued. Admiral BERKELEY earnestly demanded a committee, that Sir Baldwin Walker's character might be cleared. Mr. COREY de-

nied that the Tory Board of Admiralty had a political motive in their circular; they but reverted to the former direct control of the Admiralty. Sir F. BAKING said, common decency and justice to Sir B. Walker dictated a committee of inquiry. When the circular of April was issued, the general feeling in the dockyards was, that the time for jobbing had come again. Let the superintendents be examined. He himself had been included among the political jobbers: he asked searching inquiry. Sir F. THESSIGER thought an inquiry superfluous; but if there was an inquiry, it should not be limited to the Government patronage since April, 1852.

"As to Government patronage generally, it was known very well by every member of that House, that over and over again applications were made expressly upon the ground of services rendered at the time of elections, for a share in the patronage at the disposal of Government. A very ready answer was always open to the gentlemen who did not happen to sit upon the sunny side of the House when they received such applications, that they were unable to comply with them, as it would not be consistent with their position? The answer had often proved exceedingly convenient—perhaps it was the only advantage arising from being in opposition. (Great laughter.) But really, with regard to the Government patronage, there should not be this affectation of such extraordinary purity. (Loud laughter.) It was perfectly well known that the Government of the day was in the habit of conferring upon honourable members all the offices connected with the Excise and the Post Office within the county or the borough which they happened to represent. An inquiry into the matter would be hypocritical."

Sir JAMES GRAHAM thought it was unbusinesslike of Mr. Stafford to write, of his own authority, the circular of the 19th of April, revoking the command of a former board. As to appointments generally, it was in the usual course that the political friends of the Government might fairly obtain the nominations in general; but promotions should be made only on merit. Mr. DISRAELI thought it necessary to defend the Duke of Northumberland, who had never made appointments for political motives. As the ground of the inquiry had been enlarged, he would consent to the appointment of a committee. Lord JOHN RUSSELL said it was needless to defend the Duke of Northumberland, whom no one attacked.

After some further discussion, throughout which all speakers disclaimed any imputation on Mr. Stafford's personal honour, the motion for a committee was agreed to, the inquiry into the patronage of the dockyards not being limited by the words "since the 19th of April, 1852."

CLERGY RESERVES.

In the House of Lords last night, the Duke of NEWCASTLE moved the second reading of the Canadian Clergy Reserves Bill, and gave a sketch of the origin of those reserves, and of their history down to the arrangement of the year 1840. The alteration in that arrangement now proposed by the Government was neither secularization nor spoliation of Church property, as had been affirmed by some, but an act of justice to the Canadian colonists, its object being simply to hand over the decision on this question to those to whom it rightfully belonged.

The Bishop of EXETER warmly opposed the measure, and stigmatized the opinion expressed by Sir W. Molesworth in the Lower House as a monstrous doctrine, which ought to have been repudiated on the spot by his colleagues. It was the duty of every State to sustain religion by endowments, without which it could not be effectually maintained. If their lordships passed this bill, they would be guilty of an act of sacrilege, and thereby provoke the judgment of God. The right reverend prelate concluded by moving that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

Lord LYTTLETON supported the bill on the ground that it rested with the Canadian Legislature to provide for the religious endowments of the colony.

Lord St. LEONARDS, in a speech of considerable length, opposed the measure as a monstrous spoliation of the rights of the Established Church in Canada, which he believed to be an object of envy to the sectarians and Roman Catholics in that colony, who had combined for the purpose of spoliation.

After speeches from Lord DERBY and Lord GREY, the Bishop of Exeter's amendment was negatived without a division, and the bill was read a second time.

MAYNOOTH.

While the Commons were listening to Mr. Gladstone, a varied discussion on this worn-out theme occupied the Peers. Lord WISCHELSEA moved for a committee of inquiry into "the system of education in Maynooth College, and its results." The mover said nothing unexpected. Maynooth was subversive of the constitution; the doctrines taught there were opposed to civil and religious liberty; the canon law framed to extend the temporal, not the spiritual, power of the Pope, was chiefly taught in Maynooth; and the canon law must

be put down. He preferred a committee to a commission; for the latter had no power to compel the attendance of witnesses.

LORD ABERDEEN, not because he thought inquiry wanting—there had been adequate inquiry already—but because he was willing to concur in the tide of public feeling, would consent to inquiry, but by a commission, not by a committee, the objects of the inquiry simply being the management, discipline, and studies at Maynooth, and the effects of the increased grant. He considered, however, that the inquiry would redound to the credit of Maynooth. It was certainly legitimate for Government to see that the intentions of the Legislature were carried out; but we must not expect Protestant doctrines in a Roman-catholic college. Lord Winchelsea's motion had an *animus* offensive to Roman-catholics, and yet fell very short of consistency. If Maynooth were a dangerous institution, not inquiry, but an immediate remedy was required. The measure of 1845—opposed by Lord Winchelsea, who also opposed the Emancipation Act, but carried by the resistless and persuasive eloquence of Lord Derby—would eventuate in good; it was too soon yet to expect its results; but it would undoubtedly produce a superior class of spiritual instructors. In opposing his amendment to the motion, Lord Aberdeen hoped no one would suppose that he had abandoned his Protestant principles. He was really anxious for an inquiry that would give satisfaction to the country.

LORD RODEN, LORD SHAFTESBURY, LORD DESART, and the Bishop of LONDON, re-echoed Lord Winchelsea's tone of doctrinal denunciation. The first two noble lords brought in "the Madiai," and the four accused the priests of being seditious and opposed to civil and religious liberty. Lord Roden said, more priests were educated in Maynooth than were required for Ireland, and quoted statistics to show that Protestantism was increasing, partly through conversions, and partly through the emigration and mortality among the Roman-Catholics, who being poor, were forced to leave the country; and "living mostly on potatoes, the mortality among them had been great." Lord Shaftesbury pointed out the use of "Den's book" as a proper part of the inquiry. The Bishop of London thought a commission best: if there was any secret, the priest would not tell it; but we should inquire; the people, unhappily, were dull to the danger of Papal tyranny. Replying to these offensive insinuations, Lord CLARENDON asked, was it honourable that the character of the Roman-catholic clergy should be assailed by innuendo?—and the Duke of LEINSTER testified that the Roman-catholic clergy were well conducted.

With some freshness of view, Lord DUFFERIN enlivened the debate. The relationship between the Roman-catholic clergy and the State has been long "unfortunate;" the act of 1845 was but the beginning of a better system. If they carried out that system, the Roman-catholics would not forget the lessons of toleration they had been taught; for the neck of Protestant ascendancy had been broken. In Canada, the State supported Roman-catholic institutions; and if the doctrines of Maynooth were unconstitutional, that was known when the grant was first given. He was himself opposed to the errors of Roman-catholicism, and to any encroachment by the Pope on the rights of the Crown. Such encroachments resulted, he was convinced, from false information given at Rome. To such an extent was this false information carried and circulated, that no decent Englishman could go to Rome, but what it was expected he was on a mission to the chair of St. Peter. When he was at Rome, his humble lodging was visited by a deputation of bishops in purple and gold—(laughter)—and he was asked to officiate at the baptism of a Jew in the character of godfather. (Laughter.)

The Duke of ARGYLL usefully revived an old argument. It had been said that it was a national sin to give the funds of a Protestant nation to the support of the Catholic religion. But the error of this statement was obvious. Our funds were drawn in no small measure from Catholics as well as Protestants. Turning on the late Premier, he then said, "he could not understand the motives" of the noble earl opposite, who without doubt countenanced Lord Winchelsea.

This called up Lord DERBY.

"The noble duke who had just resumed his seat would allow him, as an older man than the noble duke, to give him a word of advice, and that was never to make an unprovoked attack upon one who had given him no ground for so doing. Having said this much, he would tell him an anecdote, which, while it was in point, would also show that he was perfectly good humoured in his advice. There was a strong powerful man, one of the class commonly known as 'navvies,' who was married to a remarkably little wife. Nevertheless, it was rumoured that this little wife was in the habit of beating her big husband. So prevalent did the rumour become, that one day some persons asked the great navvie whether it was true? He said,

'Yes, it was.' They then asked why he allowed her to do so? 'Oh,' rejoined he, 'it amuses her, and it doesn't hurt me.' (Loud laughter.)"

For himself, he had not given grounds to any one to suppose that he had modified his views on this matter: he wanted inquiry. He preferred Lord Winchelsea's to Lord Aberdeen's means towards that end; but that did not show that he was opposed to the endowment altogether. He certainly expected Roman-catholic doctrine in a Roman-catholic college; but there were different systems of Roman-catholic teaching. And was it not a question which required answering, whether the system at Maynooth would form a Murray or a M'Hale. A committee would be better than a commission; as different members would cross-examine witnesses. On that very ground Lord LANSDOWNE objected to a committee. The answers to be elicited from witnesses upon doctrinal points were seldom very conclusive. He recollected a committee which occupied two days in considering whether the creed of St. Athanasius was necessary to salvation. They then examined a right reverend prelate upon the question, and the only answer he could give was, "That several persons had sworn that the creed was necessary to salvation."

LORD GREY pointed out how insolent it was of Protestants always to say in effect to Roman-catholics, "We are right, and you are wrong." He could not forget that more than one half the civilized world professed the Roman-catholic faith. He then congratulated Lord Derby on having retained his liberal opinions of '45; but Lord DERBY, characteristically interrupting, stated that what he had said was no evidence of his having either adhered to or altered his views in 1845.

After a few more words, Lord Winchelsea's motion was rejected by 110 to 53.

AN IRISH MAGISTRATE.

An explanatory debate, relative to the case of Mr. Kirwan, Irish stipendiary magistrate, took place in the House of Lords on Tuesday; so that both Houses were engaged on some personal matter.

LORD EGLINTON stated, that during the late general election, Mr. Kirwan was resident magistrate at Ballina, a town in the county of Mayo. The county was much disturbed by the election contest.

Mr. Kirwan, in conjunction with Mr. Howley, a local magistrate, was in charge of the public peace, and, according to the reports of his accusers, was culpably inactive, allowing Roman-catholic mobs to disturb the town, and indiscreetly liberating arrested rioters. Mr. Kirwan is a Roman-catholic, and he appears to have acted with the priests in preserving the peace of the town, using on all occasions expostulations with the mob, instead of employing the small military force at his disposal. His colleague, Mr. Howley, an unpaid magistrate, was an open and avowed partisan of the Liberal candidates—driving through town, distributing inflammatory placards. Mr. Kirwan was accused, not alone of being constantly in official union with Mr. Howley, but also of dining with the Roman-catholic priests, and in general exhibiting himself in company with them. Mr. Kirwan's own account of the election transactions are curious compositions. Evidently excited by the circumstances, he represented every disturbance as a formidable riot, and expressed in a warm manner, unusual in official documents, his thanks to the Roman-catholic clergy for their assistance. He first wrote off a learned report of a riot on the 23rd of July, representing his duty "as the most arduous he had ever to perform." A few days after, he details the occurrence, pointing out why he refrained from causing the soldiers to fire—adding, "Prudence is the better part of valour." "With so small a force (not even one dragoon, I say, without fear of contradiction), no magistrate ever yet performed so arduous a duty without allowing one life to be taken or one person to be seriously injured." This was in a letter to the Castle; but Mr. Kirwan became still more eloquent in a written address to the Roman-catholic clergymen of Ballina and its vicinity. After thanking them for their conduct he thus concluded:—"Blessed be the Almighty God! I shall return to my station at Boyle in a few days, without allowing any serious injury to be done to either person or property, and I trust that I have impartially discharged my duties to her most gracious Majesty the Queen and the public, to whose judgment I most respectfully submit, although my conduct has been censured by a few 'individuals.' However, *Vox populi vox Dei*." Lord Eglington asked Mr. Kirwan for an explanation of this address, and Mr. Kirwan stated that he did apply for the assistance of the Roman-catholic priests in keeping the peace, saying he did so because Lord Eglington refused to give him a sufficient military force. He added:—"If I have erred in writing the letter of thanks, I am truly sorry for it. Every man is liable to err. In consequence of being grossly calumniated, I used the Latin quotation, intending to convey that I did not fear the result of my conduct being publicly inquired into, nor do I; but if the phrase does not convey my meaning, I can truly assure you I did not read a Latin book these twenty-one years." (Loud laughter.) Lord Eglington instituted a commission of inquiry into the affair, and finding that Mr. Kirwan had been indiscreet, and to some extent culpable, he suspended him for six months. Lord St. Germans on being appointed Lord Lieutenant restored Mr. Kirwan after four months suspension. This Lord Eglington contended was very inexpedient, as it would deprive the government of Ireland of its character of even impartiality.

A mild conversational discussion took place, several peers giving their opinion. Lord ABERDEEN said, no reflection on Lord Eglington's act was intended by the restoration of Mr. Kirwan. But, generally speaking, suspension of magistrates was injudicious. They returned to the bench no better, no worse. Censure or dismissal were the best courses. Lord DERBY took a different view—military officers and clergymen were often suspended with good effect. Lord St. Germans' act was partial. The Duke of NEWCASTLE asked how that could be, when Lord Roden was offered restoration at the same time. Lord RODEN expressed displeasure at being classed with Mr. Kirwan. Lord St. LEONARDS said, that suspension of a magistrate was quite constitutional, illustrating it by his own practice regarding ordinary magistrates. The LORD CHANCELLOR was astonished to hear such a statement; a magistrate in the commission of the peace could not be legally suspended. The subject then dropped.

ELECTION COMMITTEES.—The work of exposure continues; but few new features are added to the well known portrait of electoral bribery, treating, and intimidation. Two members have been unseated, Sir W. Fraser and Mr. Richard Bremridge for BARNSTAPLE, the Committee report that corrupt practices have extensively prevailed in the borough; and Mr. Bremridge is directly implicated in one case of bribery. But, as a set-off, Mr. Aglionby and General Wyndham, for COCKERMOUTH, and Mr. George H. Moore and Mr. Duseley Higgins, for MAYO, have been declared duly elected; although undue influence was apparent in the former election, and intimidation in the latter. The most striking discoveries are connected with RYE; where Mr. Jeremiah Smith, long an agent for the Curteis family, in their electoral transactions in that borough, has disclosed how he hit upon a plan of lending money to needy electors, great and small, how the scheme has been in operation since 1832, how he had lent as much as 7000*l.* in small and larger sums, and how the Curteis family had repudiated his claims. In fact, Mr. Smith clearly showed that the borough was in his hands, and that Major Curteis was in his hands, and that the exposure is owing to a dispute about a bill for 10,000*l.* put in by Smith, who, failing to obtain his claim, brought down a man of his own, and contested the borough last July.

Mr. Dod, member for Maidstone, has been declared not duly elected.

The House of Commons has sanctioned an address to the Crown, praying that a Commission might issue to inquire into corrupt practices at Maldon, in Essex.

On the motion of the Earl of ABERDEEN, the House of Lords agreed to an Address to the Crown for a Commission of Inquiry into the corrupt practices which had prevailed in the Hull election.

COLONIAL FISHERIES.—The Earl of MALMESBURY asked in what state the negotiations now stood with the United States' Government respecting the Colonial Fisheries, and whether it was the intention of the Government to protect the British fishermen. The Earl of CLARENDON said, that Mr. Crampton, British Minister at Washington, in obedience to instructions from Lord Malmesbury when in office, had entered into negotiations on the subject of the Fisheries, which were still pending. With respect to the protection to be afforded to British fishermen, the present Government had adopted precisely the same instructions as those sent out by their predecessors.

CAB LEGISLATION.—MR. FITZROY obtained leave to bring in a bill for altering the system of granting licenses for hackney carriages; for reducing the fare to 6*d.* per mile; for furnishing the hirer with a knowledge of the true amount of the fare; and providing other regulations for the carriages and drivers. The bill places great power in the hands of the police.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER LXIX.

Paris, Thursday, April 21, 1853.

ARRESTS continued Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. They include men in every class of the population. Officers and sub-officers of the garrison of Paris are involved in this mass of seizures, which looks as if there were a subterranean movement at work in the army, which Bonaparte may find future cause to repent. Merchants, too, have been arrested, on the accusation of having subscribed to a national loan got up in the name of the democracy by the refugees of London and Belgium. At one moment it was said that M. Goudchaux, the banker, was comprised in the measure. But it was not correct; though he has been long a marked man in the eyes of the Government, as the treasurer-general of all the funds from donations, collections, &c., in favour of the proscribed and suffering democratic refugees. To account for these arrests, the police spread a report of the discovery of a republican conspiracy at the Barrière Fontainebleau; but now that everybody conspires, and even if this report were true, it would only be one of perhaps a thousand *foci* of conspiracy that exist in all directions, no one attaches any importance to the report. Nevertheless, I begin to suspect the true cause of all these arrests. Our friends in London and Brussels are continually sending us, by the post, letters, and even, occasionally, printed circulars, in envelopes. I suspect all these missives are duly opened by the police, and the individuals to whom

they are addressed are thus marked out for the attention of the Government, which proceeds to arrest them on no other ground than that they are suspected. What strengthens this impression of mine is, that I met, yesterday, a working man, (a weaver,) of the Faubourg du Temple, who was for eight days under arrest under the pretence that he was keeping up a correspondence with the refugees. "Now," (he said,) "I never sent a letter abroad in my life. Two letters from London were shown me, containing circulars, but as I didn't know who could possibly have sent them to me, the *juge d'instruction*, after interrogating me on five days successively, ordered my release." It seems to me this is a sufficient explanation of the multiplied arrests of the last fortnight. The gentlemen of the police open letters at the post, and arrest the persons to whom they are sent. That is the whole affair.*

You must have read in the English journals that the French Government shamelessly asserted the right to violate the secrecy of letters. This right Bonaparte has caused to be set out at length in the recital (*dispositif*) of the judgment on the matter of the "Foreign Correspondence." In my last letter I cited the words of M. Dufaure, in which he inveighed with so much vehemence against the infamy of that violation. In reply to that philippic Bonaparte has had the following recital (*dispositif*) inserted in the judgment, which was delayed to the next day for that express purpose.

"Considering (says the judgment) that if, according to the terms of the existing legislature and specially of Art. 87 of the Penal Code, it is forbidden to the functionaries and agents of the Government and of the Post-office to suppress or to open letters entrusted to the said Post-office, this interdiction cannot apply to the Prefect of Police proceeding by virtue of powers which are committed to him by Art. 10 of the Code of Criminal Instruction.

"Considering that the law in entrusting the duty of detecting offences, of collecting the proofs, and handing over the authors of such offences to be tried by the tribunals charged with their punishment, has not limited the means which it intended to place at their disposal to attain that end; that, in fact, the right of perquisition at the Post is committed to the prosecutors of judicial enquiries by numerous legal dispositions, and that it is common law in such cases that the seizure in question must have been for the express object of pursuing the traces of an offence, consequently for the purpose of obtaining useful and important evidence; for these considerations (the court) declares (the letters seized and opened) to constitute evidence in the case."

This is what we call speaking out. In this matter, at any rate, Bonaparte is no longer a hypocritical despot; he does not affect a show of respect for justice when respect is inconvenient: he walks with his head erect and visage unmasked, and hurls his effrontery in the face of civilization. "I will read letters seized at the post: I have read them up to this time of my own will; henceforth I will read them by virtue of a judicial decision."†

With regard to the affair of the correspondents, the Court acquitted them of the charge of belonging to secret societies, which rendered them liable to be transported to Cayenne, and only condemned them to fine and imprisonment. One of the particular charges imputed to MM. Alfred de Coetlogon, De la Pierre, and René de Rovigo, was, "that in September, 1852, they had committed an offence against the (then) Prince President of the Republic, by speaking of him, in an audible voice, at the Café Tortoni, under the appellation of *Badinguet*!"—the name given to Bonaparte by the working classes three years since. It appears that this name has ascended from the popular ranks to the higher classes of society. The prisoners have appealed to the higher Court, on the advice of M. Dufaure, who is desirous of pleading before it the question of the opening of letters.

The popular laughing-stock as he is, Bonaparte is not the less awake to his own little affairs. I have been told that he contemplates applying to the Senate for a supplement of ten millions of francs (400,000*l.*) to his civil list, under the head of household expenses. The proposition was expected last Wednesday in the Senate. Indeed, I believe there was a crowd of visitors that day, anxious to certify the story with their own ears. Up to this moment, however, nothing of the sort has been mooted in that august assembly.

We hear nothing more now about our Coronation. Now that the Pope won't or can't come to Paris, the Emperor cares nothing about being consecrated with holy oil. It is now the latest fashion at the Tuileries

to laugh at the Pope, the sacred college, the pretensions of the clergy, and the whole ecclesiastical business—the grapes are so very sour. They cannot find sneers enough, and sarcasms upon that Court of Rome which was so lately the object of an unparalleled adulation. In fact the refusal of the Pope has offended Bonaparte beyond measure. He cannot make his aping of Napoleon complete—hence all his chagrin and bitterness. Though he has lost all hope of getting the Pope he has just made a final effort. He has sent direct to the Pope a special and private courier. Like a drowning man he catches at every straw.

Meanwhile, if Bonaparte cannot be crowned and anointed as Emperor, he is determined at all events to be buried like an Emperor. Badinguet is thinking of his funeral already! He is determined to be interred at St. Denis among the ancient kings, in the vault which the Emperor Napoleon had constructed for himself. Consequently, the ceremony of the inauguration of the tomb of Napoleon at the Invalides, which was to have been celebrated on the 5th of May, will not take place. The *Moniteur* makes a peremptory statement to this effect; and orders have already been given to prepare a new translation of the ashes of Napoleon to St. Denis for the 15th of next August. Bonaparte is jealous of Louis Philippe and of Joinville; so he is resolved to have a second representation of the solemnity of the 15th of December, 1840. This is quite decided, notwithstanding the opposition of the whole Council of Ministers to such a folly. Bonaparte cut the discussion short by these words: "You seem surprised at a Bonaparte being buried at St. Denis; yet one Bonaparte must be laid there some day, even if the Emperor Napoleon remains at the Invalides; why then not begin with the translation of the Imperial family at once?" Really this presumption exceeds all bounds! Badinguet positively expects to die quietly in his bed at the Tuileries, and to pass from that palace to St. Denis in regal state. Louis XVI. died on the scaffold, Napoleon the Emperor was driven out of France, Louis XVIII. was expelled, Charles X. was crushed by the July barricades, and Louis Philippe by those of February. History is put out of court altogether by this fanatic!

The Corps Legislatif has been occupied this week with the examination of a *projet de loi* (Bill) on Trial by Jury. The Commission appointed to report on the measure did not accept the project of the Government, but changed its essential conditions. The Government wanted the juries to be selected by the Prefects; the Commission proposed their nomination by election; and introduced another amendment, excepting condemnations for offences against the press laws from the causes of ineligibility to serve on a jury. The three amendments were adopted by the Commission unanimously. Consequently, the Bill, with its amendments, has been sent to the Council of State. It is said that the Council of State will reject the amendment. The Corps Legislatif will for the first time use the faculty it possesses, and reject in its turn the Bill. But I can't believe that these men, who have so much at heart the amusements of Bonaparte (*qui tiennent tant à faire danser Bonaparte*), will push independence so far. I am rather disposed to think that they will withdraw their amendments, and vote the law with all submission.

Political obsequies are decidedly proscribed. The Prefect of the Hérault has just launched an edict on the subject, in which we find this passage: "Whenever in any commune of this department there shall occur the death of a person who has incurred prosecution for political offences, or who has notoriously belonged to secret societies; or in short known to have professed opinions hostile to the Government which the nation freely gave itself on December 22, 1851, and November 20, 1852, the mayor is to warn the family of the deceased that it may only invite to the funeral ceremony his relatives and private friends. He must also apprise the cantonal commissary, so that the latter may be present on the spot on the day of the funeral. The cantonal commissary, assisted by the mayor, will interdict any meeting near the house of the deceased, or any procession to the grave, or any concourse within or about the precincts of the cemetery of persons unconnected with the family of the deceased, and will allow no eulogium or discourse. He will, if need be, repress any contravention to these regulations with the public force."

Bonaparte, moreover, has taken a measure of extreme importance—nothing more nor less than to interdict the higher class of instruction to poor children, and to those of limited means. The number of lettered persons in France is too considerable. It is this class which is the focus of all revolutions, says the Government. To destroy the evil at its root Bonaparte has just rendered a decree raising considerably the expense of teaching

in the royal colleges, as well as the expense of day school tuition (*l'éternat*).

Bonaparte has just received happy news. Eight hundred of the political prisoners transported to Cayenne have died of yellow fever. It is probable that that penitentiary establishment will have to be abandoned.

Several officers of the marines (*infanterie de marine*) have been cashiered for having spoken with contempt of Badinguet. Their names are, MM. Despaux, captain; Deflers, sub-lieutenant; and De la Guépière, lieutenant. The two former are Republicans. The army is at this moment submitted to an intolerable régime. The Government receives the most disastrous accounts of the dangerous effervescence arising among officers and soldiers.

Four hundred police agents have been sent to watch and to report upon the public spirit in the departments.

Intelligence has reached us from Constantinople by the *Lougor* steamer, to the 6th inst., and by Vienna, to the 11th. Prince Menshikoff has unmasked his batteries, and has summoned the Turkish Cabinet to conclude with Russia a treaty of alliance, offensive and defensive, and has threatened to start immediately if the Porte delay its decision. A great agitation prevailed at Constantinople in consequence. All the troops were concentrated upon the capital (a good military precaution). Besides, a certain number of war steamers were stationed at intervals (*échelonnés*) along the coasts, and principally directed upon the points of debarkation previously reconnoitred by the Russian officers. The French fleet is still in the Bay of Salamis. The British ambassador reached his post on the 4th, and on the 7th had an audience of the Sultan. The French ambassador, M. de la Cour, arrived on the morning of the 6th inst. Russia has excited, by means of her secret emissaries, an émeute at Broussa. The Mussulmans, fanaticised by these agents, have revolted, and massacred fifteen Christians. This is an adroit move on the part of Russia. It obviously embarrasses the *soldisant* Christian Powers, and, among the rest, Christian England.*

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

A DECREE in the *Moniteur* places three millions of francs (120,000*l.*) at the disposal of the Minister of the Interior, by way of a subvention to proprietors who will build improved lodging-houses for the working-classes. The French Government is getting alarmed at the rapid rise in the rents, from which the working-classes are suffering, as related by our Paris correspondent some weeks since.

Another decree in the *Moniteur* is a great boon to French sculptors, and is intended to promote private encouragement of art. It admits white marbles from Greece and Italy at a considerable reduction of duty.

A painful sensation, says the correspondent of the *Daily News*, has been produced at Agen by the appearance of an advertisement for the sale of the house belonging to M. Baze, the ex-representative and questor of the National Assembly. M. Baze was the leader of the bar at Agen, where he was much respected. He is still in exile, having declined to make the humiliating declaration without which none of the victims of December 2 can return to France.

The war of allusions is kept up with remarkable pertinacity and address by the chief independent journals. In *La Presse*, which is already under a first "warning," M. A. Peyrat, one of the ablest and soundest of French journalists, in the course of a series of admirable articles, under the title of Mr. Cobden's recent pamphlet, "1793-1853," dissects in slashing style the historical pretensions of the first Empire; unmasks the delusions thrown around it by contemporary French writers, and by exhibiting it in its true colours, deals a series of telling blows at the existing parody of the greater epoch.

The Military Council of Revision, presided by General Rissert, has rejected the appeal of Colonel de Sercey, against the sentence of five years' imprisonment passed on him by the court-martial.

The appeal of Perichard, the man who, after being unjustly accused of the murder of the Archbishop of Paris, was sentenced to transportation as an insurgent of June, has also been rejected.

Colonel de Sercey, it may be remembered, was distinguished by his Bonapartism, an intimate of the Tuileries, and even on the point of being married to a member of the Bonaparte family.

The accusation against Perichard was, it is believed, trumped up by private enemies and creditors. He had become very prosperous in business, and was leading a quiet life. This charge was a convenient method of disposing of him.

General Roncali has failed to reconstruct his Cabinet. General Lersundi has formed a new Ministry, of which the programme is announced to be "moderately constitutional." It would seem that public opinion has so far prevailed as to arrest the unconstitutional designs of the Bravo Murillo and Roncali Cabinets.

General Lersundi applied to M. Martinez de la Rosa, well known for his steady attachment to the Constitution,

* We beg to relieve our correspondent of any fears on our account. English Protestant Christians are not concerned about Latin or Greek Christians; and our Parliamentary Christians have enough on their hands to keep the Jews out of the House of Commons.—Ed.

* So far as France is concerned, perhaps. But may not our Home Office be in a position to give further "explanations?"—Ed.

† Really Louis Napoleon throws his admirer, Lord Palmerston, into the shade in the matter of frankness. —Ed.

to take the Presidency of the Council; but the offer was firmly declined, which looks as if either M. Martinez de la Rosa distrusted the intentions of General Lersundi, or the influences likely to be brought to bear upon his policy, or the presence of certain names connected with absolutist principles in his Cabinet. It is said that the Queen of Spain has become bitterly opposed to the Constitutional and Parliamentary system which her throne represents, and is bent upon absolute power.

Among the watchwords of the new Ministry we find that strangely ambiguous term, "*morality*," so misplaced in politics, included. This word reads like an insult to her Most Catholic Majesty Isabella. If General Lersundi intends to revive in all its ancient severity the doctrine of *Ne touches pas la Reine*, and to put a restraint on Queen Isabella's evening amusements, and extremely catholic propensities, he will find "*morality*" a very difficult principle of policy to pursue. It is thought ominous that in the midst of the constitutional professions of the new Cabinet, a visit of homage to Queen Christina (the pest of Spain), now at Aranjuez, should be announced.

Great sympathy has been manifested by all classes for M. Vahy, the late Minister of Justice, and M. Arrazola, the late President of the Supreme Tribunal, who were deprived of their offices (though legally irremovable) by the late Government, the latter for having voted in favour of General Narvaez, and the former for refusing to deprive the judges who, as senators, had voted independently of the Government, of their judicial offices. A deputation of bankers had offered M. Arrazola, who has no private fortune to maintain his family, pecuniary aid, which that gentleman respectfully declined.

If Queen Isabella is so ill advised as to persevere in her present unconstitutional course, it may become a serious question with all parties in Spain, why not have the legitimate Montemolin back again?

The Sardinian Government has published its Memorandum to European Governments on the subject of the Austrian confiscation of the property of Lombard refugees, legally naturalized in Piedmont, and whose naturalization had been recognised by the Austrian Government. This memorandum is drawn up with great address, dignity, and moderation. The Sardinian Government has presented a bill to the Chamber, demanding a credit of 400,000 francs on behalf of the Lombard emigrants affected by the confiscation.

The *Catolico*, a Genoa journal, was confiscated on the 14th, for an article entitled "The Victories of Novara," and aiming at the subversion of constitutional government. On the same day another Genoa journal of the opposite extreme, the *Italia Libera*, was seized. The *Mediterraneo* has suspended its publication.

The "Papal aggression" in Holland seems likely to create an agitation in that traditionally Protestant country, to which the excitement that followed the arrival of Cardinal Wiseman, and the Durham letter of Lord John Russell, offers no parallel. The Catholics and Protestants are so equally divided in Holland, that the struggle becomes almost interminable. The Dutch Ministry had made concessions to Protestant opinions; it had recalled the Envoy at Rome, had undertaken to make energetic remonstrances with the Papal Court, and to place on the table of the Chamber all the correspondence exchanged upon the subject; but nothing would satisfy the Chamber less than the dissolution of the Ministry. Accordingly, the Ministry has been dissolved, and a new Cabinet formed of a decidedly anti-Catholic tendency, as may be judged from the fact that the new Minister of Finance led the Ultra-Protestants in the debate of the 18th inst., on the Papal Aggression.

A telegraphic despatch dated Vienna, April 17th, states that the Emperor sends a commission, presided over by Count Rechberg, to inquire into the state of the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom, and to report on the best form of administration to be established there. General Benedek is to be one of the members of the commission.

There is no reason to suppose that any decided change of policy, or any sincere attempt at conciliation is intended. Indeed, such an attempt, even if possible, would be entirely unavailing, and it could only be considered as a tardy and graceless concession to the indignation of all civilized Europe. It is too late for Austria to dream of conciliating Italy.

On Saturday last, the Court of Appeal at Mannheim gave judgment in the case of Professor Gervinus. The public prosecutor had appealed against the judgment of March 8th, sentencing Gervinus to two months' imprisonment, as too lenient. The Court of Appeal cancels the decision of the court below, condemning the public prosecutor to pay the costs, and orders a new process on the charge of inciting to high treason.

The Prussian Upper Chamber has in a fit of spite rejected the Bill for the septennial instead of triennial renewal of the Chambers. The lower Chamber had struck out some of the worst clauses of this reactionary measure.

The Danish Chambers have once more refused to ratify the treaty of London, regulating the Danish succession, in spite of the recommendations of the royal message. The Chambers are dissolved, and new elections fixed for the beginning of June.

The mystery of the Turkish question is very far from cleared up, though Lord Stratford de Redcliffe has arrived at Constantinople. Indeed, the latest reports are among the most alarming that have yet prevailed; including a menace of abrupt departure from that personage who is rapidly approaching the regions of myth—Prince Menchikoff. However, on the 4th inst., the long looked-for *Ferry steamer*, with the British Ambassador and his suite on board, reached Constantinople; and, singular enough, the first to salute the British flag was the Russian steam frigate lying off the city. Lord Stratford was met on his landing by a vast crowd of British and Ionian subjects, as well of Turks. He assembled the British residents

together, and assured them of the preservation of peace. On the 7th inst., he had an audience of the Sultan, who welcomed him with great pleasure. On the 6th inst., he visited the Grand Vizier and Prince Menchikoff. Deviating from the ordinary practice, he also went on board the *Caton*, and had an interview with the French Ambassador, M. De Lacour. The latter landed on the morning of the 7th inst., and, according to custom, briefly addressed his countrymen, who came out in crowds to meet him. His language was, however, general in character, and no more than that of Lord Stratford, revealed the part which he was about to play. Colonel Rose left on the 7th for Malta, and thence to England. There was a great movement in the arsenal, and the Turks were equipping their fleet, but this is what they do every spring. On the 6th inst., the founders of the new bank received the firman authorising that establishment from the hands of the Grand Vizier.

THE GREAT ROCKET CASE.

THE case of Mr. Hale, of Rotherhithe, comes on, in the Bow-street Police-office, this day. Originally, it may be remembered, proceedings were taken by Government under the Gunpowder Act, by which it is unlawful for any one not a dealer, at any place within three miles of the City of London, to have in his possession more than fifty pounds of powder. It was replied last week to this special charge, that in fact there was so gunpowder on the premises. This has since been practically acknowledged by the Government itself, through the police, by the inventory which they themselves took of the goods removed, which enumerates precisely the stores so mentioned last week, and no gunpowder. Evidently feeling themselves weak on this point, they have now exhumed an old act of the 9th and 10th of William III., forbidding the manufacture of all kinds of fireworks, and which equally applies to every firework manufactory, including Cremona, Vauxhall, the Surrey Zoological Gardens, &c., &c.

There are several private manufactories, besides Mr. Hale's, which have been visited and encouraged by Government for years, and which also come under the act. In fact, rockets are illegal existences by this act—they cannot exist legally anywhere throughout the whole country (for this is not a local, but a general, act). What a dignified proceeding of Government? Failing in their attempt to make a political discovery, they dig up this old, absurd, unthought-of act, which forbids the existence of rockets in the country altogether.

THE HUDDERSFIELD ELECTION.

WEDNESDAY having been fixed for the nomination, and the day being fine, the supporters of the two rival Liberal candidates assembled in thousands at the hustings in St. George's-square. The cry on one side was "Goderich for ever!" and on the other, "Starkey, our fellow-townsmen." Both having been proposed and seconded, Mr. Starkey first addressed the electors. He commenced by an exhibition of bad taste.

"He had not the 'gift of the gab,' like Mr. Mellor [the seconder of Lord Goderich], but in offering himself he felt great confidence in the result, from the fact that he was a townsman and a mercantile man, while on the other side a stranger had been introduced to them, and an aristocrat, who could have no sympathy with such people. (Applause and disapprobation.) The other side pretended to be great purists in electioneering, and why? Because they had spent a little fortune in unseating Mr. Stansfield for simply giving a breakfast at the late election. Yet, had they not introduced to the electors an unseated candidate for the very same practices? (Laughter and applause.)"

Defending himself from the charge that he was a recent convert to Liberalism, he delivered an elaborate eulogy of free trade. Among his other professions were these:—

"He thought the more numerously the people could be brought to influence opinion in the House of Commons the better, and he was for the removal of the franchise from corrupt and decayed boroughs to new and more populous places. He was also for an extension of the suffrage. (Cheers.) He was for the ballot, and would be content to rest the issue of this election upon it, but advocated as better a mode of election analogous to that by which guardians of the poor were chosen. (Disapprobation.) He was also for an extension of education, non-interference, as far as possible, in foreign affairs, and a reform in the government of India, which would insure greater prosperity to the people of that country, while our commercial relations would be greatly extended."

Lord Goderich avoided the bad taste of his opponent. He spoke chiefly on the budget, which he said surpassed his expectations; and, looking at the measure as a whole, though there were parts that he could wish otherwise, he must say that it seemed to him a financial scheme worthy of a disciple of the late Sir Robert Peel, and, were he in the House of Commons, he should deeply regret to endanger the success of such a measure.

We have so lately published a full statement of his political opinions, that they need not be given here, especially after the result of the poll. Lord Goderich carried the show of hands, and he carried the poll. Although the Tories voted for Starkey, yet the numbers were—Goderich, 649; Starkey, 577.

NEW COLONIAL BISHOPS.

Called together by the Archbishop of Canterbury, and under his presidency, a large body of bishops, the clergy, and laity met, on Wednesday, at Willis's Rooms, to take measures for raising contributions towards the endowment of additional colonial bishoprics. The Bishop-elect of Lincoln having asked the blessing, the most reverend Archbishop referred to a statement which was made at a meeting held twelve years ago under the auspices of his predecessor,—that the spiritual wants of the colonies would require an addition of ten or twelve bishoprics, to be founded and endowed by the bounty of the mother-country—as a statement which would have appeared too sanguine at that time to be fulfilled, not to the extent of ten or twelve bishoprics only, but to the extent of fifteen.

The report of the council for colonial bishops was then read, from which it appeared that there were now twenty-five bishoprics in the British colonial empire; that the number of clergy ministering within the limits of the fifteen bishoprics founded within the last twelve years had risen from 274 to 502; that negotiations with her Majesty's Government were pending relative to a bishopric at the Mauritius, and that it was thought desirable to establish bishoprics at Graham's Town and Natal, in Africa, at Perth, in Western Australia, and at Kingston, Canada West. Taking the necessary expenses into account, the council appealed to the church for a contribution of 45,000*l*. The Bishop of London moved:—

"That the remarkable success with which it has pleased Almighty God to bless the efforts recently made for the extension of the episcopate in the colonies, and the happy results which have ensued therefrom, ought to be regarded as a call and encouragement to proceed in the same course, till every province of the colonial empire of Great Britain shall have its own resident bishop."

The question was not a question of episcopacy or of no episcopacy, but whether care should be taken that the episcopal church should not be without its bishops. If one lady had contributed 25,000*l*. for the establishment of one bishopric, a sum found sufficient for two, he anticipated that others would not be found wanting in Christian munificence, and he would not limit himself to the narrow margin of 45,000*l*., as contingencies should arise.

The resolution, having been seconded by the Earl of Chichester, was agreed to; and resolutions moved by the Duke of Newcastle and the Bishop of Oxford, and seconded or supported by the Bishop of Cape-town, Sir J. Pakington, M.P., and Mr. Cardwell, M.P., were also adopted. The Duke of Newcastle and Sir J. Pakington adverted to the necessity for an extension of the episcopate with reference to what had come under their observation in office. The Bishop of Oxford described it as altogether a modern idea that the attempt should be made to set up a church with probyters and deacons, and when there was a sufficient number of these to send a bishop. The Bishop of Cape-town, in an animated, earnest, and impressive address, explained the circumstances which rendered a division of his diocese necessary. It stretched from the island of St. Helena to the colony of Natal, which were 3000 miles distant from each other; of three years he had been out of England he had been travelling two and a half; and, though he had travelled 4000 miles during nine months, there were continental parts of his diocese which he had been unable to visit.

Thanks having been voted to the Archbishop of Canterbury on the motion of the Bishop of Quebec, seconded by the Earl of Harrowby, the proceedings terminated, after an announcement that 3000*l*. had been subscribed.

MRS. BEECHER STOWE IN SCOTLAND.

THE city of Glasgow did public honour to Mrs. Beecher Stowe on Friday, the 15th inst. A gigantic tea-party, consisting of upwards of 2000 persons, was assembled in the City-hall, there to receive and compliment the most popular authoress of the day. Mr. McDowall was in the chair, and introduced their guest to the company, by whom she was received with genuine Scottish enthusiasm—an enthusiasm which, when it does break out, is more vehement than that of more excitable and demonstrative people. After Mrs. Stowe had bowed her acknowledgment to the admiring and delighted crowd, Dr. Wardlaw moved the following resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Robison, and cordially agreed to by the company:—

"The members of the Glasgow Ladies' New Anti-Slavery Association and the citizens of Glasgow, now assembled, hail with no ordinary satisfaction, and with becoming gratitude to a kindly-protecting Providence, the safe arrival among them of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe. They feel obliged by her accepting with so much promptitude and cordiality, the invitation addressed to her—an invitation intended to express the favour they bore to her, and the honour in which they held her, as the eminently-gifted authoress of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin'—a work of humble

name, but of high excellence and world-wide celebrity—a work, the felicity of whose conception is more than equalled by the admirable tact of its execution and the Christian benevolence of its design—by its exquisite adaptation to its accomplishment—distinguished by the singular variety and consistent discrimination of its characters—by the purity of its religious and moral principles—by its racy humour and its touching pathos, and its effectively powerful appeals to the judgment, the conscience, and the heart—a work, indeed, of whose sterling worth the surest test is to be found in the fact of its having so universally touched and stirred the bosom of our common humanity, in all classes of society, that its humble name has become a household word from the palace to the cottage, and of the extent of its circulation having been unprecedented in the history of the literature of this or of any other age and country. They would, at the same time, include in their hearty welcome the Rev. C. E. Stowe, Professor of Theological Literature in the Andover Theological Seminary, Massachusetts, whose eminent qualifications as a classical scholar, a man of general literature, and a theologian, have recently placed him in this highly honourable and responsible position; and who, on the subject of slavery, holds the same principles and breathes the same spirit of freedom with his accomplished partner; and along with them, too, another member of the same singularly talented family with herself. They delight to think of the amount of good to the cause of emancipation and universal liberty which her 'Cabin' has already done, and to anticipate the still larger amount it is yet destined to do, now that the 'Key' to the 'Cabin' has triumphantly shown it to be no fiction; and in whatever further efforts she may be honoured of Heaven to make in the same noble cause, they desire, unitedly and heartily, to cheer her on, and bid her 'God speed.'

Dr. Wardlaw expressed his own pleasure in being called upon to move this resolution, and his unequalled admiration of *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. "My judgment and my heart," said he, "alike fully respond to everything said in the resolution respecting that inimitable work." He then spoke of Mrs. Stowe's present ill-health and physical exhaustion with deep regret, attributing it to "the effect of severe mental labour on the bodily frame." "No one," he added, "who looks at the *Cabin* and the *Key* will marvel at this." He expressed a hope that her sojourn in the United Kingdom might recruit her strength and help to prolong a life so useful to her fellow-creatures and the glory of God. "Meanwhile, she enjoys the happy consciousness that she is suffering in a good cause," &c. The Doctor then grew somewhat facetious. "It may sound strangely that when assembled for the very purpose of denouncing property in man, we should be putting in our claims for a share of property in woman. So, however, it is. We claim Mrs. Stowe as ours,—not ours only, but still ours. She is British and European property as well as American. She is the property of the whole world of literature and the whole world of humanity. Should our transatlantic friends repudiate the property, they may transfer their share;—most gladly will we accept the transference." Dr. Wardlaw declined to speak of the slavery question, leaving it to Dr. Stowe, the husband, and the Rev. Edward Beecher, the brother of the distinguished authoress, who were both present.

Dr. Stowe was received with loud cheers. He thanked the city of Glasgow in his wife's name and his own. In deprecating the immense admiration excited by *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, he said of the book that which from a literary critic would be very high praise: "I speak nobody ever made that book; I speak it grew." He proceeded to dilate on the slavery question in America. In the course of his remarks, he mentioned the fact that the old Scotch seceders and the descendants of the Scottish Covenanters, are the only two religious parties in America who have never tolerated slavery; and that the Quakers have ceased to hold slaves. At the conclusion of his speech, Dr. Stowe requested the assembly to excuse his wife's early retirement, on account of the weak state of her health; and Mrs. Stowe left the hall amid the liveliest demonstrations of enthusiastic admiration.

Dr. King afterwards addressed the assembly, reminding them that while the resolution condemned slavery, it was respectful towards the Americans and their institutions generally. On the one subject only did he see cause of blame against the grand New World. In many respects he thought the United States superior to Great Britain.

Mr. Beecher afterwards spoke. Nor was Glasgow destined to be the only city honouring Mrs. Stowe. A banquet was held on Wednesday evening, in the Music-hall, Edinburgh, in presence of a crowded and brilliant assemblage, presided over by the Lord Provost of the city. Mrs. Stowe, on taking her seat at the right hand of his lordship, was enthusiastically cheered, and every mention of her name and work throughout the evening was received with great applause. In the course of the evening there was entrusted to the care of Mrs. Stowe, to use for the benefit of the slave and the promotion of the abolition cause, the sum of 1000 sovereigns, being the result of the national "Uncle Tom Penny Offering," originated

several months ago in Edinburgh, and being made up of pence and small contributions. The gold coin was presented on a silver salver, the gift of a few ladies of Edinburgh to Mrs. Stowe. Professor Stowe replied briefly on behalf of his wife, and, in the course of the evening, the Rev. C. Beecher addressed the meeting. Mrs. Stowe is to attend meetings in Edinburgh on Saturday and Tuesday next, visiting Dundee in the interval.

PROGRESS OF THE SUNDAY REFORM MOVEMENTS.

We have received the following letter from Mr. C. F. Nicholls.

10, Great Winchester-street, Old Broad-street.

SIR,—The friends and foes of Sunday Reform have not been idle since I last addressed you. Mr. Robert Le Blond lectured on Sunday fortnight at the Tower Hamlets Literary Institute, Morpeth-street, on "Ought the Crystal Palace to be Open on Sunday or not?" Mr. Le Blond premised that his discourse would consist principally of extracts. He was true to his promise. From Eusebius to Archbishop Whately quotation after quotation was brought forward, showing that the opening of the Crystal Palace on Sunday would not have been objected to on religious grounds by the Christian Fathers, by the Reformers, or by modern theologians. Calvin, Luther, Cranmer, Baxter, and a host of other authorities, were adduced. I need not touch on the lecture further, as Mr. Le Blond consented, at the request of the meeting, to have the lecture printed, and a valuable text book it will be. The large hall of the Institute was well filled, the Committee having thrown it open free to the public for the occasion. The opposition was as weak in its logic as it is unsound in its protestantism. Instead of grappling with the argument of the lecture, it laid hold of an incidental remark made in reference to Sunday Schools. The opposition had nothing to say, but had not arrived at a consciousness of that fact. At Sydenham a public meeting was held at the Golden Lion Inn. The large room was crammed, though the rain poured down in torrents. Numbers could not get in. Mr. Peter Taylor was in the chair. The opposition was energetic, though unsuccessful. The resolution affirming the desire that the Crystal Palace should be open on Sunday, was carried by an overwhelming majority. Mr. W. Newton made one of his usual able speeches, which the meeting fully appreciated. The meeting was noisy, vehement, but good tempered, and considering that Sydenham is not addicted to public meetings, it was, as the chairman said, in reply to the vote of thanks, "Not the most unruly meeting he had attended." Friends in favour of the opening are at work at Ipswich, Leicester, and some other places, the names of which I have forgotten. One thousand signatures are already recorded at Ipswich. The self-appointed saints are not idle. A letter from J. Alderson* informs me, that for several weeks past petitions against the opening of the Crystal Palace on Sunday have been lying in shop windows for the signatures of working men. The working men showing no disposition to sign, as the next best thing the saints are now canvassing the shopmen and shopkeepers, handing a tract to those lost persons who refuse to sign. The tract gives the statistics of labour already employed, but does not say that the authors intend appealing against such employment. In the enumeration is forgotten the lamp-lighter, the Sunday policeman, who protects property and take up drunks on that day, also the soldiers who guard the palace of the Queen. It is hard to be consistent—hard to be forced to carry out your own conclusions. The Pharisees of 1853, whose piety lives in forms—these Protestant popes can overlook the soldier that guards the palace and person of the Queen—but the Palace of the People, to guard that is irreligious, improper, breaking God's Law. Another letter, received from a draper's assistant confirms, the view taken by myself at the London Tavern in respect of them. It reiterates, "Our opponents dare not fairly canvass the 100,000 shopmen of London." These letters are but samples of more than two hundred received within the last month by Mr. Le Blond and myself. A large portion of the people interested in the opening of the Crystal Palace on Sunday think it is sure to be opened. They overlook the influence of Bigotry—of the cry of "religion in danger" on the minds of the timid and time-serving. Every effort will be made to prevent the first reading of the bill. If the opposition is successful in this, the question will be closed for some time. Everything depends on public opinion pronouncing itself unmistakably in favour of its opening. Every one having an opinion should express it. Every

* Will Mr. Alderson forward his address, as I should like to communicate with him. It will be strictly confidential!—C. F. N.

one desirous of the Crystal Palace being open on Sunday should record that desire in a petition, and persuade others to do the like. Statesmen are with us—the intelligent among the clergy are with us. Both require backing up by public opinion, or they may not deem it safe to act. All depends on energy. Every petition tells. Promptitude must be the watchword of our friends, if what they do is to have effect.

Yours faithfully,

C. F. NICHOLLS.

P.S. On Monday, April 18th, Mr. Newton and myself attended a meeting of the working classes of Ipswich; a deputation from the London committee having been requested. The opposition was numerous and vigorous. Mr. F. R. Young was appointed chairman. An amendment was made by the opposition and lost. An ex-alderman and several other gentlemen of local importance attended in opposition. The first resolution, affirming the Crystal Palace ought to be open, was carried by two thirds of the meeting. The amendment proposed was well supported. Mr. Sims spoke at first neither in favour of amendment or resolution. He made a doubting speech, and ended with a doubt against the Crystal Palace. His speech made considerable impression on the audience. The opposition would not believe they were beaten. Not satisfied with a show of hands, the meeting was obliged to be divided before they would be convinced. The meeting was noisy and somewhat turbulent, but good humoured and hearty. Mr. Newton was greeted with three hearty cheers. A meeting took place last night at Orange-street Chapel, Leicester-square, to oppose the opening of the Crystal Palace on Sunday. I was unable to attend and have not yet learned the result.

CHINESE LOVE-LETTERS.

(From the "Panama Herald.")

We think we might safely venture on a wager that perhaps not half-a-dozen—if any—of our readers have ever seen a genuine Chinese love-letter. We have, though. Recently in Amoy a marriage was concluded between a son of the ancient family of "Tan" and a daughter of the equally old and respectable house of "O," and the annexed productions, we are assured, are literal translations of the letters that passed on the occasion between the fathers of the young couple. Here we have the proposal of the father of the bridegroom—

"The ashamed younger brother, surnamed Tan, named Su, with washed head makes obeisance, and writes this letter to the greatly virtuous and humble gentleman whose surname is O, old teacher, great man, and presents it at the foot of the gallery. At this season of the year the satin curtains are enveloped in mist, reflecting the beauty of the river and hills, in the fields of the blue gem are planted rows of willows close together, arranging and diffusing the commencement of genial influences, and consequently adding to the good of the old year.

"I duly reverence your lofty door. The guest of the Sue country descends from a good stock, the origin of the female of the Hui country likewise (is so too). You have received their transforming influences, resembling the great effects produced by rain, much more you, my honourable nearly-related uncle, your good qualities are of a very rare order. I, the mean one, am ashamed of myself, just as rotten wood is in the presence of aromatic herbs. I now receive your indulgence inasmuch as you have listened to the words of the match-maker, and given Miss S. in marriage to the mean one's eldest son named Kang: your assenting to it is worth more to me than a thousand pieces of gold. The marriage business will be conducted according to the six rules of propriety, and I will reverently announce the business to my ancestors with presents of gems and silks. I will arrange the things received in your basket so that all who tread the threshold of my door may enjoy them. From this time forward the two surnames will be united, and I trust the union will be a felicitous one, and last for hundred years, and realize the delight experienced by the union of the two countries Chin and Chin. I hope that your honourable benevolence and consideration will defend me unceasingly. At present the dragon flies in Sin Hai term, the first month, lucky day. I, Mr. Su, bow respectfully. Light before!"

On this decoction of the essential oil of modesty the young Miss O's father looks with favour, so he responds in a state of still more profoundly polite humility:—

"The younger brother surnamed O, named Tus, of the family to be related by marriage, washes his head clean, knocks his head and bows, and writes this marriage letter in reply to the far-famed and virtuous gentleman surnamed Tan, the venerable teacher and great man who manages this business. At this season the heart of the plum blossom is increasingly white; at the beginning of the first month it opens its petals. The eye-brows of the willow shoot out their green, when shaken by the wind it displays its glory, and grows luxuriantly into five generations. This matter for congratulation the union of 100 years. I reverence your lofty gate. The prognostic is good, also the divination of the lucky bird. The stars are bright, and the dragons meet together. In every succeeding dynasty office will be held, and for many a generation official vestments will be worn (not only those of your family surname will enjoy all the aforementioned felicity), more especially will your honourable gentlemen who possess abilities great and deep, your manners are dignified and pure. I, the foolish one, am ashamed of my diminutive

tiveness. I for a long time have desired your dragon powers, now you have not looked down upon me with contempt, but have entertained the statements of the match-maker, and agree to give Mr. Kang to be united to my despicable daughter. We all wish the girl to have her hair dressed, and the young man to put on his cap of manhood. The peach flowers just now look beautiful, the red plum also looks gay. I praise your son, who is like a fairy horse who can cross over through water, and is able to ride upon the wind and waves, but my tiny daughter is like a green window and a feeble plant, and is not worthy of becoming the subject of verse.

"Now I reverently bow to your good words, and make use of them to display your good breeding. Now I hope your honourable benevolence will always remember me without end. Now the dragon flies in the Sin Hai term, first month, lucky day. Mr. Tu makes obeisance. May the future be prosperous."

The modesty of the old gentleman is so painful that we are almost afraid to guess what may have been the feelings of Master Tan and Miss O; but whatever they were, they must have overcome them by this time, for the friend to whom we are indebted for these epistolary gems danced at their wedding a couple of months back, and was nearly suffocated with drinking scalding black tea out of cocoa-nut shell cups.

But the letters themselves—for we have received the originals, together with the translations—are, at least, as remarkable for external glitter as for internal value. Each of them is about the size of one of the *Citizen's* pages, and consists of a rich frame composed of something like our *papier maché*, inside of which is artistically folded a scroll of richly-tinted crimson paper, studded with the golden letters that convey the words of love and modesty. The outer surface is likewise emblazoned with a quantity of raised work, representing robes of honour, tails of distinction, the smallest of all small shoes, peacock's feathers, and a variety of other equally tasteful designs, which are supposed to be emblematic of the vast accession to the wealth and honour of both contracting houses that may be expected to flow from the union of the gallant Su Tan, junior, and the accomplished Miss Tu O.

TRIAL OF THE BOOMERANG PROPELLER.

THE Boomerang screw-propeller, invented by Sir Thomas Mitchell, and which was so successfully tried, in May last year, at Sydney, was tested on the Mersey on Tuesday afternoon; the application being made to the Genova, one of Messrs. McLean and M'Larty's Mediterranean steamers.

The type of Sir Thomas Mitchell's invention is, as our readers are aware, the curious weapon of the native Australians, which is formed of heavy wood, and resembles somewhat the form of a new moon, but showing an elbow, rather than an arc, in the middle. The boomerang is generally about two feet in length, two inches broad, and a quarter of an inch thick. When thrown by the native to a great height in the air, it describes two motions, one rotary, the other direct, being almost imperceptibly in the plane of a screw. By the first motion, the missile revolves round its own centre of gravity, and in consequence of this motion surviving the direct impetus with which the weapon is sent up, it is made to screw back in the air to the very spot from whence it was thrown, the object of the native having been in the meantime accomplished in the wounding or destruction of his foe.

This peculiarity suggested what is now called the Boomerang Propeller. We gather from the inventor, and from other gentlemen who have been observant in these matters, that after many experiments in the attaching of centres, various practical difficulties in the use of propellers have been obviated, or are proposed to be obviated, by the plan of Sir Thomas Mitchell, whose experiments, however, we must add, have as yet been made only on a very limited scale, on account of the narrowness in the present apertures of this class of vessels. The elbow-shaped weapon of the savage, gliding through the air, shows how the difficulty of the centre may be avoided; the cusps show how engineers may deal with the circumference; while the general form of the missile, in acting obliquely, to the radius of rotary motion, demonstrates the possibility of embracing two-thirds of a column of water at once, with the least possible surface, the least obstruction to rotary motion, and yet with the greatest effect as a screw. If the theory of Sir Thomas Mitchell be correct in its application to screw propulsion, the value of the screw over the paddle-wheel will be thus greatly enhanced; the screw having been already found susceptible of at least as high speed as the latter, when properly adjusted. As before hinted, however, there are considerable difficulties attending the introduction of the Boomerang, in consequence of the narrow apertures of the vessels, while this new propeller requires a space equal by at least one-third the height of the aperture. Thus, under present circumstances, not the whole apparatus, but only mutilated portions of it, can be applied; and so great is this mutilation, that whereas the advantage in

the Boomerang consists in its embracing two-thirds of the helix at once, the common form adopted in experiments hitherto has been scarcely one-third, reliance being placed on the more harmonious nature of the surface, as compared with the ordinary screw, its perfect freedom at the centre from choking, and the consequent increased facility for rotary motion.

In the Genova, on Tuesday, each blade in use was, from the cause alluded to, not larger than one-seventh of the whole spiral, while the pitch of these two abridged portions was nearly double the diameter, the former being twenty-three feet, the latter twelve feet three inches. The whole of the centre of the Boomerang was withdrawn on the ground of space—the utmost velocity attainable could not exceed sixty; while the working surface was five feet less than that of the ordinary screw. We should not omit to mention, as an important feature in the invention, that from the concavity of one blade, and the convexity of the other, the water is not driven to the centre to choke it. Direct steering is thus materially facilitated as compared with the operation of the ordinary apparatus; which, whether consisting of two or three blades, has the effect of driving the water all in one direction. A noticeable fact also is the weight of the Boomerang as compared with the screw, the former being 26 cwt. and the latter 62 cwt.

The trial trip was made round the Crosby Lightship. From a variety of causes unanticipated, the experiment was not so successful as it would otherwise have been, though this, we must in justice say, was not, as far as we could judge, attributable to any defect in the new plan. The average speed attained, under a pressure varying from 6lbs. to 9lbs., in place of the proper one of 10lbs., was $9\frac{1}{2}$ knots per hour; and this was acknowledged by several gentlemen of nautical experience on board to be a gain of one knot at least over what would have been obtained under similar circumstances by the ordinary screw.

"TABLE MOVING" IN VIENNA.

"THE new American discovery" of table moving is, according to a correspondent of the *Times*, all the rage in Vienna.

"A few days since the *Augsburgh Gazette* contained a letter on 'Table Moving,' which immediately excited a mixed feeling of curiosity and incredulity here. Curiosity, however, prevailed, and for the last three days the Viennese have thought and spoken of nothing but the new American discovery. Of the innumerable experiments made, many have been unsuccessful. An eyewitness states that on Sunday afternoon five members of our Juridical Political Reading Union—men of different ages—seated themselves round a small table, with double feet, and formed the magnetic chain, and according to the instructions given by Dr. André, of Bremen, in the above-mentioned letter. In an hour and a quarter the rotatory motion commenced. The experiment was made in the presence of fifty persons. The *Wiener Zeitung* yesterday evening made mention of two other cases, in both of which the tables were broken. Yesterday evening the experiment was tried in my presence, at the house of a friend. A round veneered dining-table, having three stout legs resting on one base, was placed on the 'parquetted' floor (Dr. André recommends a carpet) of the room. Round the table three ladies and five gentlemen placed themselves, and formed a magnetic chain, which is effected by each person laying his hands lightly on the margin of the table, and placing the little finger of his right hand on that of his neighbour's left. The chairs must be a foot apart, and care taken that none of the dresses come in contact. The feet must not touch the table. All rings and bracelets in the case now related were removed. After the experiment had lasted about an hour, the table began to exhibit an almost imperceptible undulating movement. Some minutes afterwards it was convulsively jerked to the right and left, and, finally, it turned to the right on its own axis with such velocity that the persons forming the chain, who had in the mean time risen, were obliged to run in order to keep pace with the new-fashioned locomotive. The movement was so violent that the bystanders were soon obliged to relieve the original actors. When one person left the chain and another entered, there was a slight interruption of the electric stream, but in two or three minutes the table was dancing about the room as before. In the course of the experiment, which altogether lasted two hours and a quarter, it became evident that some persons possess far greater magnetic powers than others. If, when a new chain had been formed, the table seemed disinclined to continue its exertions, one gentleman, a man of great strength and size, could always immediately rouse its dormant energies. This circumstance induced some persons to fancy that, by pressing the palms of his hands forcibly on the table he gave it an artificial impetus, but, to convince them that such was not the case, he hooked his little fingers into those of his neighbours, and barely touched the table with the tips of his thumbs. If the dress of any link in the chain was touched, the electric fluid escaped, and the table stood still; and the same effect was produced if it was touched by a bystander. The sensations experienced by the experimentalists before the magnetic fluid was equally distributed through all the links of the chain was very different, but the most common were heat, tingling, and pulsation in the hands and arms, and pains in the head. In two cases ladies fainted; but this is hardly calculated to excite surprise, as there is something weird in the whole affair. An agent of the police, who suddenly found himself in the presence of a society of

table-movers in expectation, would probably take them for a gang of conspirators just swearing fidelity to each other. Successful table-movers—that is, those in action—are like so many wild witches and warlocks. After quitting the above-mentioned house I went to the Mercantile Club, where an unsuccessful trial was made. On leaving the chain, one of the gentlemen affirmed that his watch had gone backwards during the experiment. The asserion caused considerable hilarity at the time, but my own watch—which is known to Dent, of Charing-cross, as a capital one—went twenty-seven minutes too late this morning."

Vienna, April 12.

This is not Mrs. Hayden's mode of moving the table.

MISCELLANEOUS.

As no news is good news, we may fairly presume that Queen Victoria is entirely convalescent. She has been daily visited by her mother.

The property taken by the police from the house of Mr. Hale, was conveyed to Woolwich Arsenal on Sunday and Monday.

A public meeting is to be held on Monday evening at seven o'clock, in the Marylebone Vestry-room (which has been granted by the vestry for the purpose), to consider the propriety of supporting the motion to be brought forward by Mr. Duncombe in the House of Commons, for an Address to her Majesty on the subject of the occupation of the Roman States by the troops of Austria and France. Mr. Nicholas, a member of the vestry, is to be in the chair. Lord Dudley C. Stuart, Sir Benjamin Hall, and Mr. Duncombe, are expected to be present; and various gentlemen of influence connected with the parish, and members of the *Society of the Friends of Italy*, are to address the meeting. We are glad to see the important parish of Marylebone following the example of St. Pancras in this matter, and we hope to see many more metropolitan meetings on the same subject. In the present position of our Government with regard to foreign affairs it is well that the people should follow Lord Palmerston's advice (which, perhaps, in common with some later acts, he would now wish forgotten), and speak out their sentiments, so as to apply a little gentle coercion in the right direction.

The petition movement against the prolonged occupation of Italy by the French and Austrians goes on bravely.

Unmistakable signs of the prosperity and spirit of the working-classes are now abundant; and wages are everywhere going up. The Cornish miners have struck, and returned to work, but on symptoms of the persecution of one of their leaders they turned out again. In South Wales, masons, carpenters, painters, and shoemakers claim an advance with success. At Nottingham hands are so scarce that foreign labour is accepted. At Newcastle, the flint glass makers, masters, have resolved only to defer for a short time a rise in price. The Direction of the London and North Western have agreed to advance the wages of goods porters. And the Ashton spinners decline to work more than ten hours.

The journeymen carpenters of Winchester are claiming from their masters an advance in wages.

The last mail from the United States tells us that Mr. Soule has been appointed Minister to Spain. Mr. Soule is a strong advocate for the acquisition of Cuba.

Sir John Ramsden, a young baronet, and we hear young enough to be sincerely liberal, offers himself for the vacant seat at Taunton. His address is manly, moderate, and sensible, and has less of the cant phraseology of the hustings than the majority of such compositions. He is opposed by a local banker and Tory. We trust neither the one nor the other of these qualifications will give Mr. Badcock, however estimable as a citizen of Taunton, too great an advantage over his liberal opponent.

The nomination for Athlone took place on Wednesday: it was a very stormy affair; the mob would not hear the opponents of Mr. Keogh, who carried the show of hands.

We learn by electric telegraph this morning that the polling at Athlone took place yesterday. At twelve o'clock, Keogh was 79, Norton 40. Norton retired, Keogh declared elected.

The discussion on education in the Manchester City Council terminated on Wednesday in the adoption, without a division, of a motion declaring further discussion inexpedient until the Government measure was before the country.

Manchester has again come forward to give its voice on Indian affairs. A meeting, under the presidency of the Mayor, was held there on Thursday. Mr. Thomas Bailey, Dr. Vaughan, Mr. Henry Ashworth, and other gentlemen, pleaded the cause of Indian Reform. The gist of their views, however, were embodied in the following resolutions:—"That in the opinion of this meeting, the constitution of the Indian Government is not adapted to secure the welfare of the people of India, and has not promoted their best interests, nor provided for that wise administration of affairs which it is the first duty of every

* By this it is meant that either during the successful or the unsuccessful experiment the watch lost twenty-seven minutes.

Government to afford to the people over which it rules; that abundant evidence has been adduced to prove that, under the British Government, the progress of the people in industry and wealth has been retarded; the administration of justice has been defective; the nature and mode of taxation have been oppressive; public works have been inadequate for the purposes of communication, navigation, and irrigation; and that altogether the governing power has left the people in a state of misery disgraceful to their rulers; and that this meeting believes that no security can be given for the reform of abuses in India but by a thorough reform of its home government, and entertains the opinion that the Court of Directors and proprietors of East India Stock should be entirely disconnected from the government of India, which, for the future, should in this country consist of a Minister and a Council appointed by the Crown, and directly responsible to Parliament."

A deputation from the Association formed to promote a cheap and uniform system of colonial and international postage waited on the Earl of Aberdeen, for the purpose of impressing upon his lordship the expediency of reducing the rate of postage to threepence instead of sixpence, as at present proposed by the Government. Besides the commercial men, there was quite a troop of Members of Parliament with the deputation. The Premier expressed his entire concurrence in most of what had been advanced by the different speakers. He did not feel, however, that, consistently with his duty, he could receive the proposal made by the deputation. It was admitted that one penny might be reasonably required for the domestic, and another penny for the colonial part of the expense; but the ocean postage was complained of as excessive in amount. Now, many of the gentlemen present were no doubt connected with the shipping interest, and if any of them were willing to undertake the conveyance of letters at the rate which was called enormous, the Post-office would be very happy to accept the offer. He was not competent to enter into the details of the question, but as far as he understood what had been represented to him on the subject, by the office over which Lord Canning presided, he could not say that he was prepared to reverse the opinion which the noble viscount had expressed on the subject.

Mr. Wallace, of the *Anglo-Celt* newspaper, who was convicted of a libel on the 31st Regiment, was on Thursday sentenced, by the Court of Queen's Bench, to six months' imprisonment, and to pay a fine of 50*l.* to the Queen.

General Sir Walter Gilbert, one of the heroes of the great Sulej campaign, is now on his way home from Egypt, in consequence of the state of his health precluding the possibility of his further residence in India. He will leave Alexandria for England as soon as his strength will admit of his undergoing the journey.

A report received from the "Bridge-house committee" of the Common Council in relation to the proposed erection of a new bridge between Blackfriars and Southwark bridges, and the rebuilding of Blackfriars-bridge, has been ordered to be printed. The report stated, that the committee were of opinion that additional bridge accommodation was desirable, and recommended the court to entertain Mr. Deputy Bennoch's proposition for a new bridge, "provided the necessary funds could be obtained for the purpose."

The annual accounts relating to the British Museum have been printed in a Parliamentary paper. The estimate of the sum required for the year ending the 31st March, 1854, is 55,840*l.* The sum granted for the year, 1852-3 was 52,343*l.* The number of visitors to the establishment from Christmas, 1851, to Christmas, 1852, was 507,973. In the preceding year the number was 2,527,216, the increase arising from the opening of the Great Exhibition.

At a late hour on Tuesday night we received a telegraphic communication to the effect that William Tyrrell, the youth at present lying under sentence of death at Kirkcaldie, and about whom so much interest has been excited in this neighbourhood, had that day been reprieved.—*Manchester Examiner.*

The *Official Journal of the Two Sicilies* announces a miracle said to have taken place at Bari, where one of the thorns belonging to the crown with which our Saviour was tortured fell full some drops of blood on Good Friday last, in the presence of a numerous concourse of people. A similar miracle is stated to have taken place at Andria on the same day, with another thorn of the crown; and it is added that this is not the first time such a thing has occurred, but that it has been several times observed, the last being in 1842.

"The Eternal City," says the *Builder*, "has been full of visitors, including as many as 35,000 foreigners. Our correspondent informs us of the discovery of tombs near the Via Appia, that fruitful mine of antiquarian interest, containing the ashes of the freedmen of Nero, Pompey, and Cæsar. Dr. E. Braun has nearly completed a guide to the monumental relics of Rome. The gas works now being erected for the illumination of Rome, under the direction of our energetic countryman, Mr. James Shepherd, engineer, are rapidly progressing. The *Giornale di Roma* congratulates the inhabitants on the advantages which will follow their completion."

The thirty-sixth annual meeting of the Royal Dispensary for Diseases of the Ear was held at the Dispensary, Dean-street, Soho-square, on Wednesday last, the Rev. T. Davis Lamb in the chair. The report was read by the secretary, which stated that the number of patients admitted during the last year under the care of Mr. Harvey, the surgeon, were 1488, of which 550 were cured and 308 relieved, showing that the increase of patients beyond those of last year admitted to the institution were 350, and that 224 more had been cured and 116 relieved, consisting of cases of deafness, complicated with noises in the head and other diseases of a kindred nature. The report also stated that the advice afforded at the institution had prevented many from becoming applicants for parochial relief as inmates of workhouses. The reverend gentleman forcibly appealed to the meeting on behalf of the institution, and said that he thought it second to none in the benefits it conferred in

soothing an affliction which, from its melancholy tendency, deprives the sufferer of all intercourse with his fellow-creatures. The public were earnestly solicited at the meeting for support to enable the committee to meet the large and increasing demands that were daily made upon it for assistance. Votes of thanks were passed to the reverend chairman and to Mr. Harvey, the surgeon, and the meeting separated.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

A declining rate of mortality affords evidence of a gradual improvement in the public health. Since the weekly mortality rose to its maximum at the end of March, the number of deaths fell in the first week of April to 1340, and in that which ended last Saturday to 1243. Since the week ending March 26, in which it was 33.3 deg., the mean temperature has risen to 44.4 deg.

In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843-52 the average number of deaths was 972, which, if raised in proportion to increase of population, gives a mortality for last week of 1069. The return of last week, therefore, shows an excess of 174 above the estimated amount.

The two complaints of an epidemic character, which from their fatal effects appear to prevail most at present, are typhus and hoopingcough, the former having destroyed last week 65 lives, the latter 08. Bronchitis, though much abated, is still marked by a severity not usual at this season; it was fatal in 128 cases, while the corrected average of corresponding weeks does not exceed 84. Phthisis destroyed 165 persons. Pneumonia has declined to 89, which is also, however, greater than is usual in this month.

Last week the births of 853 boys and 826 girls, in all 1679 children, were registered in London. In the eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845-52 the average number was 1407.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.943 in. On Monday and Friday it was above 30 in. The mean temperature of last week was 44.4 deg., which is slightly below the average of the same week in 38 years. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday the mean daily temperature was below the average of the several days, and on the first-mentioned day it was 6.4 deg. below it. On these days the wind blew from the north-east; at other times from the north or north-west. The mean dew-point temperature was 35.6 deg.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 4th of March, at Mearnt, the wife of Captain Cookson, Cantowent magistrate: a daughter.

On the 15th of April, at 13, Rutland-square, Dublin, the Countess of Courtown: a son.

On the 19th, at Ealing, the wife of Henry Blackett, Esq., of 13, Great Marlborough-street: a son.

On the 19th, at 3, Bentinck-street, Manchester-square, the wife of Dr. Sieveking: a son.

On the 19th, at Brook-hall, Londonderry, the wife of Captain Leach, Royal Engineers: a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 12th of April, at Brussels, by his Excellency the Ambassador from Rome, in his private chapel, Viscount de Kerkhove Varent, Conseiller d'Ambassade, Chargé d'Affaires of the Emperor, from Turkey and Belgium, to Emily, eldest daughter of Baron de Peñeranda de Franchimont, of Brussels, and granddaughter of the late John Spong, Esq., formerly of Brussels, and late of Aylesford, Kent.

On the 14th, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Brompton, Edmund H. Yates, Esq., only son of the late Frederic H. Yates, to Louisa Katherine, youngest daughter of Henry Wilkinson, Esq., of Brompton-square.

On the 14th, at Henbury, Captain Charles William Miles, of Burton-hill, Malmesbury, son of the late Philip John Miles, Esq., of Leigh-court, to Maria Susanna, only daughter of Jere Hill, Esq., of Henbury, Gloucestershire.

On the 14th, at the University and King's College, Aberdeen, by the Rev. Robert M'Pherson D.D., Professor of Divinity in that University, and uncle of the bride, William Stewart James Horne Munro, M.D., Esq., of Lathorne, county of Caithness, N.B., assistant-surgeon H.M. Eighty-third Regiment, to Isabella Ogilvy, second daughter of Hercules Scott, Esq., LL.D., Professor of Moral Philosophy and Logic in the same University.

On the 14th, at the Church of St. Stephen-the-Martyr, St. John's-wood, A. L. Vandenberg, Esq., of Portsmouth, to Louisa Ann, only daughter of J. W. May, Esq., Consul-General of the Netherlands, of Holland-lodge, Regent's-park.

On the 15th, at St. Matthew's, Brixton, the Rev. Matthew Vaughan, LL.B., of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, Chaplain of the Royal Asylum of St. Ann's, to Eliza, youngest daughter of the late Richard Seal, Esq., of Brixton.

On the 19th, at Countess-Weir, Exeter, the Hon. Frederick O'Brien Fitzmaurice, Lieutenant R.N., to Mary Anne Taylor, eldest daughter of the late Robert Taylor Esq., Abraham, Esq., and granddaughter of the late Rev. Richard Abraham, rector of Chalfcomb, and vicar of Ilminster, Somerset.

On the 19th, at Minstead Church, Hants, the Rev. William Walton Henningham, M.A., St. Peter's College, Cambridge, to Matilda Anne, youngest daughter of the late Major-General J. R. Parker, C.B., of the Royal Artillery, and Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich.

DEATHS.

On the 9th of April, at Frankfurt, Baroness Adelaide, the wife of Baron Charles de Rothschild.

On the 12th, at the Vicarage, Great Bedwyn, Wilts, Rear-Admiral Sir Thomas Fellowes, Knt., C.B., &c., in the seventy-sixth year of his age.

On the 13th, at his residence, Colishall, Norfolk, Commander James St. John, R.N., in his seventy-first year.

On the 15th, at Leicester, in the fortieth year of his age, the Rev. Anthony Bainock Harrison, of Queen's College, Oxford, A.M., curate of St. George's, Leicester.

On the 15th, at 7, Connaught-place, West, Major-General Robert Burd Gabriel, C.B. and K.H., Colonel of the Seventh Dragoon Guards, aged seventy-four.

On the 17th, at Guilford-lodge, Upper Tulse-hill, aged fifty-two, J. M. Rainbow, Esq., for twenty-eight years the much-valued actuary of the Crown Life Assurance Company.

On the 20th, George Frederick, eldest son of George Goldsmith Kirby, Esq., of No. 3, Kensington-park-gardens East.

On the 21st, at Lambeth Palace, Wilson Charles, infant son of the Rev. John H. R. Sumner.

On the 18th, at Liverpool, Miss Mary Ann Sunter, aged nineteen, youngest daughter of George and Margaret Sunter, of Derby.

The Leader

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 1853.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—Dr. ARNOLD.

THE GLADSTONE BUDGET:

ITS ANTECEDENTS AND CONSEQUENCES.

MR. GLADSTONE has earned his right to take his stand as a Finance Minister next to Peel. Whatever exception we may take to certain items of his scheme, there is no denying that his Budget is a masterly conception, and that its practical results, if it be not frustrated by party conflict, will prove of the utmost benefit to the revenue, to the commerce of the country, and to every class of its inhabitants.

We begin with the assumption that the income-tax could not advantageously be dispensed with, but that it is better to continue that impost, disagreeable as it is, rather than to forego the advantage of continuing those improvements in the whole scheme of taxation which Sir Robert Peel began. We agree with those who hold that the income-tax is unjust—because, with a profession of apportionment, it really presses with great severity on some, and lets off others with great ease. But experience has proved that it is at present impossible to arrive at any agreement upon a practicable plan of adjustment, even if such an adjustment be possible; which we have learned to doubt. When Mr. Gladstone entered upon the subject of the income-tax, there appeared to be three courses open to him—to relinquish it, to continue it as it is for a time, or to re-adjust it and render it permanent. He has taken neither of those courses, but to a great extent his plan combines the advantages of all three. The experience of Sir Robert Peel's measures has shown that, with better adjusted taxation, the produce in revenue steadily increases; and by his further improvements Mr. Gladstone secures a still larger growth of that valuable produce. By continuing the income-tax, therefore, he lays the seed of that which is to supersede the necessity for it. Independently of that process, a considerable amount of the public debt, consisting of Long Annuities, will fall in with the year 1860. Taking that fact, together with the growth of the revenue upon which he has a right to calculate, he provides for the gradual diminution of the income-tax, and for its final extinction in 1860. It is thus at once retained for present use, definitively settled as a temporary tax, and arranged for extinction under the operation of permanent causes.

For his purpose of further financial reform, Mr. Gladstone required more than his estimated surplus of 800,000*l.*; and besides some minor taxes, which are of no great moment, he obtains an additional revenue by two grand extensions. One is in itself of a twofold nature: the income-tax is extended, at the rate of 5*d.* in the pound, down to the limit of 100*l.* incomes; and it is extended to Ireland. Both these extensions are warranted, not only by the benefit which the income-tax has purchased for all classes, but by the further benefits which it will yet secure to them. The other grand extension is that of the legacy-duty to real property. This last spreading of the burden not only neutralizes the injustice of keeping personal property liable to a tax which landed property escaped, but in its effect it tends to correct the too great pressure of the income-tax on trades and professions. By these means Mr. Gladstone obtains a working surplus of somewhat more than 4,000,000*l.* sterling.

He had now to choose the taxes which he would remit or reduce. He had, of course, the whole field of taxes out of which to choose, and the gross produce of which amounts to about 60,000,000*l.*, but of course he was limited within that 4,000,000*l.*—considerably within, because it would not be safe to leave himself quite without a surplus. Under such circumstances, after a choice has been made, it is easy to suggest reasons why this or that reduction would have been

better than the one chosen; but for the purposes of the present survey we must commend the Finance Minister if, upon the whole, the remissions which he has selected are of a kind to set free revenue-producing commerce or revenue-producing industry. Mr. Gladstone's remissions fully answer to that test. The total abolition of the duty on soap is a concession to a long established opinion against that impost: it will afford more relief than the mere amount of the tax, since it will free the trade for improvements that must speedily render soap better and cheaper. The gradual reduction of the tea-duty, within three years, to 1s. as the ultimate permanent rate, will relieve every class in the country, especially the humbler classes, and must pave the way for a large extension of an important reciprocal trade. The reduction of the stamp-tax on receipts to a uniform penny will reduce a vexatious minor impost on trade to an inappreciable amount, will supersede extensive evasions of the stamp tax, and will indeed reap a largely increased revenue out of a largely extended use of stamped documents for various purposes in the nature of receipts, vouchers, &c. The reduction of the duty on newspaper advertisements diminishes an impost on the publicity of commerce. In the last case we believe that total abolition would have been the wiser course, but we do not propose to hamper the present survey of a great scheme as a whole, with minute criticism on special things. The whole amount of remissions, when they are completed, will exceed 5,000,000*l.*, but only half will take effect during the present year. Their general effect is to relieve large classes of consumers, to remove impediment from the free operations of trade, and to clear that ground for the growth of revenue.

It has been rightly said, that the Budget must be taken in connexion with Mr. Gladstone's plan for converting stock into new kinds, which will diminish the pressure of the National Debt, both of the permanent capital and the annual charge; and in the shape of the Exchequer bonds, will place so much of the Public Debt within the ready control of the Finance Minister. Taken together, the broad effects of the measures will be these: while the burden on the consumer is diminished, commerce is rendered freer in its working, capital is rendered more abundant, the growth of revenue is secured, the income-tax is placed in train for natural extinction at a fixed date, and the Finance Minister is endowed with increased power to regulate public finance for public interest.

We arrive at a fuller appreciation of Mr. Gladstone's achievement when we compare his scheme with previous budgets. Its best parallel is Sir Robert Peel's Free-trade Budget, of which the abolition of the differential sugar duties and the reduction of the timber duties were but appendices. Sir Robert Peel's object was to reform the tariff on the principle of Free-trade: Mr. Gladstone's is to continue the reform by removing taxes which, though not protective or prohibitory, are bad for excess, inequality, unproductiveness, or obstructiveness. And he has also introduced the principle of mobilization into the public debt. These substantial reforms may be contrasted with the attempt of his immediate predecessor to coax the income-tax into a means of converting taxation against commerce for the benefit of land. It may also be contrasted with the last Whig budgets, before Sir Robert Peel introduced the principle of Free Trade.

In making his financial statement of 1840, Mr. Baring estimated the expenses of the year 1840-1 at 49,432,000*l.*, and the receipts at 46,700,000*l.*, leaving a deficiency of 2,732,000*l.* To meet this deficit, he proposed an increase of 10 per cent. on the assessed taxes, with the exception of the post-horse duty; and an increase of 5 per cent. on the whole of the customs and excise duties, with the exception of those on corn and spirits. By means of this large increase to the national burdens, coupled with an additional duty of 4*d.* per gallon on spirits, and a vote of credit for 350,000*l.*, Mr. Baring thought he would be able to get along for another year. Mr. Hume tried to persuade him to impose a tax on the descent of real property, but his amendment was negatived by 156 to 39. The time had not yet arrived for that.

When the House of Commons went into a Committee of Ways and Means, in 1841, it turned out that Mr. Baring's plan for meeting the deficit of the previous year had not worked

as he anticipated. Instead of having made both ends meet, there was then a new deficit of 1,841,000*l.* The novel scheme of adding five per cent. to the customs and excise duties had been a complete failure. So far from obtaining a larger sum by that addition, there was a considerable falling off in many of the items: in tea there was a decrease of 2,873,676 pounds; in sugar, of 250,343 hundred-weights; in wine, of 397,978 gallons; and in spirits, of 379,121 gallons.

Sir Robert Peel foresaw these results. Mr. Gladstone is now threatened with opposition; and he would be effectually arrested if Mr. Disraeli or Sir John Pakington could address him in the words which Sir Robert Peel addressed to Mr. Baring.

"It is impossible to look at the financial position of this country without great anxiety and deep apprehension. * * * At the end of the next financial year there will be a deficit of 7,589,000*l.*; and there has been a continued deficit for five years. I see I am alarming the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Familiar as he is with the subject, he can hardly believe the extent of the deficit under the financial administration of the Government of which he is a member. I will, however, satisfy the right honourable gentleman that I am not making an incorrect statement on this point. Beginning with 1838, I find that the deficit for that year was 1,428,534*l.*; for 1839, it was 1,430,325*l.*; for 1840, 1,457,133*l.*; for 1841, 1,851,997*l.* and the Chancellor of the Exchequer estimates that the deficiency for 1842 will amount to 2,421,000*l.*—making an aggregate deficiency of 7,589,079*l.* Who is responsible for this?"

In 1842 Sir Robert Peel encountered a deficiency of 2,469,000*l.*, but he calculated that the aggregate of deficiencies really amounted to something over 10,000,000*l.* Deficit had been becoming a Whig institution, and it was to free the country from deficit, almost as much as to free it from anti-commercial protection, that his reforms were made. The subsequent remissions of taxation in the aggregate far more than rival the old aggregate of annual deficiencies, and yet at the end of the financial year 1852-3 we have a surplus of 2,460,000*l.* Such has been the success of the process which Sir Robert Peel began at a season of almost unexampled adversity, and which his pupil and colleague is continuing and extending at a season of almost unexampled prosperity.

POWER OF THE WORKING-CLASSES.

It is very interesting to witness the progress which every day exhibits in the conscious power of the working-classes. Little more than ten years ago—a very short time in the life of a country—working men were petitioning for work as they would for charity; were glad to live upon "green tail," and to labour on the terms dictated by their employers. Nay, it is very few years since working men who combined to promote the interests of their own class were liable to punishment. We now see the Attorney-General declaring, that workmen have a right to combine for their own protection, and to obtain such wages as they choose to demand, or to gain themselves any benefit; a remark which he makes to show that there is no occasion to alter the law as it was administered by Mr. Justice Erle at Stafford in 1851. But those who have observed the administration of the law, perfectly know that the interpretations of the Bench ordinarily leave the masters free to such combinations as suit their own purposes; while the workman incessantly finds that his right of combination, recognized as it may be, is surrounded by traps of legal nicety. How often it happens that the right to combine results solely in the right to go to prison. But a good time is come—a time when the working-classes need not depend upon those legal niceties; and the principal guarantee which we see for securing all that that time can yield is, that the working-classes *know* their own power.

The simple rise of wages would be a small matter in comparison with that conscious power. Not that the increase of money is a trifle. So small an addition as 2s. in Wiltshire or Dorsetshire makes all the difference between wretched life and tolerable. The workman, however, knows not only that he has a right to higher wages, but that he has a right to wages as high as the trade can afford. He knows not only that he has a right to a rise of wages now, but to another rise in a short time, if trade should go on as it has done. This knowledge will induce him to seek further information as to the real state of

his business; and if the working classes once begin to inquire; once begin to collect practical information for their own guidance, as commercial men do for theirs, they will not so continually be losing in their bargains as they have been. In nine cases out of ten the master beats the workman, because the workman, uncertain as to the facts, not knowing how trade goes, how workmen in other branches are acting, is not firm in his purpose. It has happened, indeed, that sometimes he has been firm when he ought not to have been so; or he has stuck out for a particular sum of wages when the trade could not afford it. The master has then been obstinate with sound reason, and the man, being beaten, has taken that experience as a proof that firmness on his side may be carried too far. Now, it never can be carried too far—when it is correct; but it may be used at *wrong times*; and that is the true distinction. The workman can only know the difference by collecting information.

At present, with the increasing value of labour, with the necessity which the employer has for carrying on his business at all events, the labourer is acquiring an independence which he has never enjoyed in this country; and he may use it for something better than a rise of wages. There are three modes in which it may benefit him. The first is, by the ordinary rise of wages; which gives him a larger proportion of the returns. The second is, by an improvement in the conduct of the trade itself. Workmen have hitherto been jealous of machinery, because it displaces them; but if they now know their own interest, they will encourage machinery, which may increase the productive power of their trade, and thus create larger returns to be shared between employers and men. They may do so the more safely, if they possess sufficient information and sufficient discipline over themselves to attain the third advantage, which their greater independence renders possible; it is that of regulating the hours of working.

If trade were to be the blind thing that it has been until this very day; if the masters were to go on working machines and men, without regard to markets or consumers; any multiplication of productive power could only end in glut, panic, crisis, and disaster. If masters and men, however, are in possession of information, they can regulate their make by the market. That is the true and the only philosophy of trade. Every step in seeking and diffusing sound information tends towards that result. Short time is recommended, not only by its moral considerations, but by its keeping the make within the control of masters and men. Hitherto men have been obliged to petition for it from Parliament: they have got it in part, and they are now carrying on an agitation about the country to get more protection out of Parliament. We agree with the men at Ashton-under-Lyne, that they are not likely to get much more, although the Ten Hours Bill has worked well, even in the estimation of its original opponents. The trading desire to grasp profit is so great, that it will always resist an extension of the ten hours principle. Even in Protectionist districts there is the same repugnance. Your Suffolk farmer will be as niggardly in resisting the demand of his men to work ten instead of eleven hours, as the most thorough-going economist of Manchester. How can the labourer want a shilling more wages, cries the farmer, if he won't work another hour for it?

Luckily, the time has come, when the working classes, if information and right understanding be sufficiently diffused amongst them, can take this matter into their own hands. The working classes do so in other countries, where information is not on a par with our own land. In Italy, for example, the working classes, obeying a custom, leave their work at twenty-four o'clock, half an hour after sunset all the year round. At Ashton-under-Lyne, the working hands have acted on that resolution, and we trust that they will adhere to it. They began on the evening of the 12th instant, leaving their work at six o'clock, without the consent of their masters, at the same time as the "females and young persons." This is the more remarkable, since a concession of an advance of wages was almost simultaneously made by the masters; showing that the two questions can be treated quite separately.

In short, a time has come when the working classes can have a voice in arranging their own terms, both as to money and as to time; and if they proceed in the same way, they will yet be

able to realize other advantages. They must take care that they do not ask faster than the masters can give, or they will defeat their own purpose. They must take care not to exceed reason. They ought if possible to establish a candid understanding with their masters; they ought to know most especially how members of their own bodies are acting in different parts of the country. If they secure all these conditions, they will be able to procure such advantages as more comfortable places to work in—to say nothing of that better personal treatment, which would do as much as anything to improve the moral tone of trade. Prosperity has its lessons as well as adversity; and we are anxious that the working classes should make all that they can out of the present season.

NATIONAL ARBITRATION IN PRACTICE.

As the members of the Peace Society are actively engaged in trying to persuade the people of England that arbitration is the only way in which nations ought to settle their mutual differences, and as they must naturally feel anxious to learn how their system works in those countries where it has been tried, we hasten to place before them the history of an attempt which has lately been made to put down a bloody war by moral suasion and the law of kindness. By the last African mail, we have received a file of the *Liberia Herald*, which, among other interesting intelligence relating to that negro republic, formed in West Africa by emancipated American slaves, contains an account of the efforts made by the Government at Mourovia to persuade two hostile tribes in that neighbourhood to live at peace with each other, and of what befel the one which was silly enough to follow that advice, after the fashion recommended by Mr. Charles Gilpin, in his celebrated pamphlet.

The first notice of the dispute which we find in the *Liberia Herald*, is in the number for January 5, 1853, where a list is given of the several acts and resolutions passed by the legislature in the session which had ended only two days before. The first of these is entitled "An Act authorizing the President to adopt certain measures for adjusting and terminating the disputes and wars at present existing between the Vey and Golah chiefs, occupying portions of the Little and Grand Cape Mount territories." What these means were is not stated; but the next number of the *Herald* (which appears fortnightly, the settlement being as yet in its infancy) introduces us at once to the seat of war, where the one Chief acts the part of Louis Napoleon, with a divine mission to kill or make prisoners of those who resist his imperial will; while the other Chief, acting under the pacific counsels of the Liberian Government, appears in the character of victim. The *Herald* had "hoped that the disturbances so long existing between the Veyes and Golahs had measurably ceased," although it did not think it likely that sincere friendship would subsist between "Dwar-looh-Beh and Boombo, the contending chieftains." The quarrel between these two worthies had been an old affair, and great exertions had been made by the Government to reconcile the contending tribes. In December, 1851, a grand Peace Congress of West African kings and chieftains was held at Mourovia, the capital of the negro republic, when everything was arranged in the most amicable manner between Dwar-looh-Beh and Boombo. On that occasion, "the President gave them to understand, in strong terms, that he would not permit them to renew hostilities—that if any cause of difficulty should again arise between them, and they could not arrive at an amicable arrangement between themselves, they should refer their case to the Government; and every means would be adopted to humble the aggressor, and bring him to merited punishment." In spite of all this, Boombo, having watched his opportunity, joined with a certain Prince Cain, and raised the standard of revolt against the ordinances of the famous Peace Congress. The description of what followed we must give in the simple language of the *Liberian Herald* itself:—

"In May last, Boombo again raised the standard of revolt, and burned and sacked the towns of Dwar-looh-Beh, and who, true to his obligations to the Government, resorted to arms only in defence of his towns and people. The administration of Government was then in the hands of Mr. Williams, and Dwar-looh-Beh sent to him for assistance, and for permission to make reprisals. This was not granted; but commissioners were sent to Boombo to demand his

reasons for violating his solemn engagement. The commissioners were discourteously received, and they returned without obtaining the least satisfaction. The Government did not cease to remonstrate with Boombo, who all the time was sorely pressing Dwar-looh-Beh; and as this chief was denied the privilege of making an aggressive movement, he ventured to visit Mourovia, to urge the Government to take immediate measures to relieve him. While here intelligence reached him that Boombo had taken advantage of his absence, and succeeded in capturing his principal town, had murdered a number of his people, and held his family prisoners. Mr. Williams, accompanied by three commissioners, went up to Little Cape Mount in the *Lark*, and sent the commissioners on shore with a message to Boombo. He met the commissioners, and while in conference with them, his warriors crossed the river, attacked one of the principal towns of the inoffensive Deys, murdered more than a hundred of them, carried off hundreds into captivity, and burned the town to ashes, all while the *Lark* was in sight with the then executive officer of the Government on board. The commissioners returned home; and very soon after the regular meeting of the Legislature took place, when the whole of Boombo's treachery and violations of his treaty were laid before it. The Legislature, knowing all the facts, passed a law authorizing a military force to be put on foot to subdue the rebellious chief. The President has delayed to adopt this course, hoping that other measures might be resorted to, to end the difficulties. Dwar-looh-Beh was in Mourovia the 1st of the month (January). The object of his visit was to call the attention of Government to the continued aggressions of Boombo. The President assured him that *he had the subject then under consideration* (the old European red-tape phrase on all such questions), and would, he hoped, soon have the country at peace. Dwar-looh-Beh returned home; and but a very few days after his departure from here, news reached the President that Boombo had captured another of his principal towns. Now, what is to be done in the premises? Is it just to Dwar-looh-Beh, that, because he has always maintained his integrity to his treaty with the Government, he should be hindered now to make aggressive movements to resist the encroachments of this bloody-minded desperado?"

This simple story of the results of arbitration ought to be carefully studied by Mr. Cobden and his friends. Its "unadorned eloquence" may perhaps have more weight with them than all the arguments of their opponents.

But this is not the end of the history of the wars in West Africa. On the 2nd of February we have further accounts of the doings of Boombo, who, we are told, "continues to be successful in his bloody deeds; neither grey hairs, nor infants at the breast, receive the least sympathy from this bloody-minded butcher. Regardless of his obligations to Government, he has continued to push forward his aggressive marches; he has now surrounded several towns of our friends, and in a few days, unless his headway is suddenly arrested, will capture them and murder the inhabitants." And all the while the Liberian President has the subject "under consideration, and hopes to have the country at peace before long, in such a way as will gratify every friend of peace,"—and what is of more consequence to the economical reformers of Mourovia, so as to "obviate the necessity of Government disbursing a large sum in forcing the belligerents to maintain the conditions of their treaty stipulations." Nothing could answer Boombo's purpose more effectually, and accordingly, we learn from the *Herald* of February 15, that he was then extending his depredations into the Dey country—burning villages and murdering the inhabitants—and a few days since robbed several factories owned by merchants of this place [Mourovia] established in that section.

Our latest accounts of the war come down to March 2nd, by which time the President appears to have become convinced that the pacific measures of Government were not sufficient in dealing with miscreants like Boombo. Determined to bring matters to an issue, the President left Mourovia on the 1st of March with 200 armed men. "It is not expected," says the *Herald*, "that a necessity will exist for any fighting, still it is well to be prepared for any emergency." Here the bulletins from the seat of war break off suddenly. We look forward with much anxiety to the next news from Liberia for an account of the meeting of Boombo and President Roberts; rather anticipating that it will have proved necessary to back the canons of peace with the coarser cannons of war.

CARDINAL WISEMAN AND THE BRITISH REFORMATION SOCIETY.

THE British Reformation Society—a body, no doubt, of considerable piety and utility, but which has hitherto made its converts and its collections in commendably humble obscurity, has suddenly emerged into publicity, in a singularly comic manner. Wherever we walk, we see a placard, contending for place with announcements of cheap hats, cheap pills, cheap clothes, and all sorts of cheap improprieties, which informs us that this active secret society has been playing Box and Cox with Cardinal Wiseman, asking his Eminence if he fights, and, on receiving a reply in the negative, inviting him to "come on." A poster, of enormous magnitude, which extinguishes, for ever, the glory of whole hosts of secular advertisements, first informed us of the fact, that two discreet gentlemen, of one of the varieties of our manifold Protestant "persuasion," had offered to advance against the imperturbable Goliath, if only a meeting would assemble to see these conceited little Davids have their fling. The proposition would really have been tempting, had his Eminence cared as much for victory, as did his insect antagonists for fame. But he, known to literature and to the world, who might combat Whately with his own weapons, and deal back sarcasms to him of Exeter, as well as logic to him of Dublin, could have cared little for his personal dignity, and less for his official character, if he had entered the lists with these contemptible adversaries, who invited his hostility in the consciousness that they were beneath it, and with the intention of proclaiming themselves conquerors, if, as they foresaw must be the case, he would not stoop to administer to them their due meed of curative castigation. He did not, of course, notice the petty annoyance of which he was the subject. He may possibly have seen some of our May meetings, with their seething crowds of pseudo-pietists, engaged in croquet, for the most part, and, at intervals, refreshed with sherry and biscuits, careless of the dull routine of virtue, but ever and anon brightening up into a cheer at some dash of religious vituperation, or deafening with applause some reverend Orangeman, who has been most bounteous in his dealing of damnation to all religions in Christendom, save that special form of fanaticism represented at the meeting. His Eminence may have entertained doubts as to whether the religion which he deems true could be advanced by the bandying of its most august mysteries among a passionate and ignorant assemblage, to whom they were signs of contention, not symbols of belief. He may only have wished to reprove the presumption of those unknown persons, who, without authority, without being delegated, either by any dissenting body, or by the Established Church, called on him—the representative, in this country, of the principle of Catholicism, to debate and to discuss his faith, and, without the hope of making one convert, to open his heart to an unsympathising audience, and to state to controversialists, thirsting for display, what men of his religion feel, as well as what they think. Most properly he declined; and what is the consequence? The meeting at which the Cardinal might have presided, railed off, like a wild beast at a show, into a compartment of his own, has been held; the anticipated audacious interpretation of his absence has been made, and an audience has come to the charitable conclusion, that what arose from scorn, is attributable to pusillanimity. Resolutions have been passed, surely in contravention of the Third Commandment, expressing a valueless, but decisive opinion, on questions which have been subjects of Christian controversy for ages; and clergymen—we trust self-ordained—have pandered to this lust for religious excitement, and have taught professed Christians to sit in judgment, where, as their own faith teaches, they should only kneel in hope.

In the name of common decency, let us protest against such proceedings. Blasphemy in any shape is odious enough, but hypocritical blasphemy—blasphemy in a white tie and on a platform—blasphemy, talking with glib disrespect, "wagging the tongue with dexterous acceptability" on matters of the highest import,—such blasphemy outrages decency, and not merely religion, and is as offensive to the good taste of the unbeliever, as it is revolting to the honest conscience of the faithful. The British Reformation

Society may be a useful institution, conducted upon Christian principles; its directors are, very possibly, as honest as they evidently are misguided; but at present, we warn them, they are missing their mark, and damaging the cause they seek to prosper. Let them import into the management of their affairs, in addition to that zeal which is their present characteristic, a little gentlemanly feeling. A very little would suffice to have prevented the pitiable, blundering folly into which bad taste and ignorance have just betrayed them. For want of it, they have rendered their faith ludicrous, and this protest necessary. Their conspicuous folly has made Catholics think more highly of the solemn sanctity of their own religion, and has taught Protestants to blush for a faith which, though they believe it to be true, they feel to be, just now, thanks to the British Reformation Society, ridiculous. Let promoters of May meetings take warning; let them remember, that propriety is not inconsistent with zeal, and that polemics are but a poor substitute for Christianity.

HOW TO IMPROVE THE HARMONY OF THE EVENING.

LORD GRANVILLE has made a valuable contribution to the philosophy of public dinners; throwing out, from the richness of his inventive mind, ideas which may be improved. This was done at a model dinner of the Artists' General Benevolent Institution, in the Freemason's Tavern,—a dinner creditable to the artists, both of the easel and of the cuisine. The noble chairman testified to both facts. "Instead of heavy looking gentlemen," he said, and he spoke as if heavy gentlemen were the ordinary garnish of a dinner-table, "he saw round him some of the most intellectual looking men of whom the metropolis could boast." It is said that the late Lord Melbourne gave a dinner to some "gentlemen connected with the press," and that, as he parted from them, he delighted them by the frank surprise which he expressed, at finding them such good fellows, with so much to say for themselves! He had no idea that newspaper men were really such intelligent persons. Lord Granville, in like manner, awoke to a sense of the distinction between the typical alderman of traditional weight, and the artist of real life. The artists must have felt flattered!

The dinner, also, was amazing, for the feast of poor artists: "he counted no less than fifty dishes in the bill of fare," and the fare "was excellent." It cannot strain charity very much to attend such a feast; though, according to Lord Granville, that sort of thing, in other words, a charity dinner, "requires the possession of a good stamina, and nothing but a British constitution can go through it."

But the noble Chairman narrated experience, and suggested improvements. He dined once at the opening of a railway to Pesth,—an Austrian archduke as chairman, Kossuth as one of the speakers; but, in the course of the speaking, "four or five gentlemen rose, and began talking at once." Another dinner was in Paris, where there was less of speaking, and more of music; to which the Earl did seriously incline; and with reason. At these entertainments, it mostly happens, that the music has been better prepared than the speaking; it re-awakens the flagging senses, and never fails to inspire the hearer with a value for discipline, when it is extended to the voice; the speakers often illustrating the same truth in an opposite way.

Although Lord Granville does not quite approve of the Hungarian fashion of simultaneous speech, it appears to us that, by favour of music, that economy of time might not be lost. How briskly and how pleasantly would it get over the ground, if three or four speakers could condense their speeches beforehand; arrange them into verse, have them set to music, and deliver them simultaneously. Think of getting over four speeches, thus delightfully, in a quarter of an hour at the outside. It is not at all necessary that the words, or even the sentiments, should be the same; nay, a strenuous opposition might be carried on: an honourable gentleman might maintain elevated sentiments in the tenor, while the indignant bass could keep up a running commentary of refutation, with tremendous weight and power. The experiment is really worth a trial, for if it succeeded at a public dinner, why not at the public meeting? if on the platform, why not in Parliament? The last would be a prodigious improvement. The debates might

consist altogether in solo and chorus; a duet between Gladstone and Disraeli, with the antique strophe and anti strophe for the multitude behind each. Such occasions would afford the opportunity for native talent, and proceedings of Parliament would evoke more than a Purcell to set them to the proper score.

CAB REFORM.

IN the days when Mr. Fitzroy's Cab Reform shall be an accomplished fact, the cabman, now so odious a monster to the riding public, will be a perfect gentleman, a George the Fourth, and then he will be reasonably entitled to ask for the corresponding cab-rider reform. One can imagine a scene in that paulo post future day, when the meek and accomplished cabman shall be exposed to the gross indignities which are now shared, not monopolized by the driver.

Seated in a carriage, which is delicately fitted up in every part, the rider will lounge with his feet upon the front seat. On alighting, the cabman will make no allusion to the fare, and the rider will pay him only half what it ought to be. "Sir," the cabman will say, quite unlike one of the order when he is imposed upon now, "I fear you have miscalculated the space that we have traversed, and, unintentionally no doubt, you have offered me a sum incorrectly estimated."

"Go to the devil. I know the distance."

"Pardon me, it is my lot to trace it much oftener than yourself, sir; and, with whatever inferior faculties, perhaps my humble position has given me a more considerable familiarity with practical geometry than your own."

"You must take that or nothing, and be —"

[Here follows a burst of idioms not fit for publication.]

Cabman thinks passenger seems to be rather intoxicated, but delicately avoids all allusion to the circumstance, even by so much as a look. Cabman only smiles a polite intimation that he retains his own opinion.

"What are you grinning there for, you * * *

Am I to be treated in this * * * impertinent way? I shall take your number, sirrah; and by * * * Yes; * * * your soul to * * * if I don't."

"Possibly, sir, you might prefer to submit the question to some judicial authority; there is my number, and here is my card; and I will with pleasure wait upon you to-morrow morning, when you may be—more at leisure to consider the metrical topography of the district we have threaded."

"Be * * * I shan't give a farthing more. Police!"

"You have the advantage of me, for you have no badge. Put, perhaps, sir, you would not mind telling me your number?"

"My number, you scoundrel! I am *Number One*, and I know how to take care of myself!"

Finding that the passenger is not open to reason, and reluctant further to irritate a fellow-creature by raising a controversy on the last point—for a rider is a man and a brother, even though he may be an M.P. caught in Whitehall in "the sma' hours"—the cabman calmly retreats from the contest, grateful that the pecuniary amount in dispute is a trifle, which a little privation will easily make good. Why, he reflects, should money create discord between man and man? But perhaps if riders also had their badge they might feel a little more responsibility.

Perhaps, also, he reflects, a different system might be better for all parties. Being badged we are badgered; being fixed in our fares there is never knowing what those rough fellows will pay. Now, if hackney carriages were altogether on a different footing, men might emulate each other in bringing good carriages, good horses, and good drivers on to the stand. Free-trade in fares would be quite compatible with certainty, if the rate per mile were fixed on the side of the cab. If the police are to meddle in detail, why not let one constable witness the bargain in entering the cab, and another receive the cash for the journey at the opposite end, as a way of paying into court the always litigated amount? Mr. Fitzroy has half anticipated this last idea of the cabman's, but he still violates free-trade in fares.

"A STRANGER" IN PARLIAMENT.

NO. 32, Chesham-place is our British Temple of Janus; and its opening at 1 o'clock to-day (if the plans of the week are not changed at the last moment) is the signal that there is war again in the land. Mr. Disraeli is reported to have said recently, previous to the delivery

of the budget, "Strong Government—Bah! I am tired of them out whenever I like;" and the question of the day is—does Mr. Disraeli like to turn out the Government? Fakradeen, as those who remember the sketch of Disraeli by Disraeli, in "Tancred," know, excelled in "combinations," and there are several at his disposal now. Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Duffy are images of each other—ethnological evidences of the contact of the Semitic and Milesian races—and fate seems to suggest, as only a political confederation, headed by these leaders, of the extreme Protestant and Tory with the extreme Catholic and Revolutionary party against a Government which has coalesced, and so cancelled, and thus admirably represents the period in its recommodatory negation. It is an age of coalitions; a coalition turned out Mr. Disraeli; a coalition threatens to turn out Mr. Gladstone; and this result of national acquiescence in the cry of "measures, not men"—manhood, but not man—is the attainment of an admirable party, *juste milieu*—the state of dead lock. Listen to an Irish Brigadier laying it down to Mr. Hayter, who strokes his chin while calculating is there any place that would suit the hon. member: "You see you must give us what we want; neither you nor the Tories can keep power if we keep aloof from you. Give us a repeal of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill and Tenant Right (and, by the by, get rid of that infernal Keogh) and we'll disband. We leave you on the hip—we have Disraeli on the hip—and you must make terms, or—of course I never talk to him, but I have occasionally met Mackenzie—prejudiced about Maynooth, but a deuced good fellow—or, I nearly throw this out as a suggestion,—he will." A Great Briton, like Hayter, does not like being at the mercy of the Brigade; but he knows all this is true; and if England is to be sold, Hayter would rather not let Mackenzie make the bargain. Observe the position of parties; remembering that Mr. Duffy can get 30 whips—Irish is in earnest, and would only return the faithful—and a dissolution is not impossible. Say that Disraeli leads an amendment for a differentiation of the income-tax, he has 200 at his back. The Radicals would, much against their will, shrink away from the Government—Disraeli and Gladstone (not counting on all the Radicals even) would then be fairly matched; and Messrs. Duffy and Moore could turn the scale. Again, supposing Mr. Disraeli led an amendment against the extension of the income-tax to Ireland, and that he would have the whole of the Irish members with him (not an impossible rascality), the Government could hardly escape. Supposing that Mr. Gibson leads an amendment for the total repeal of the advertisement duty, Mr. Disraeli would vote with him; and there again the Brigade could choose which jobbery should be heaviest. If the Brigade does turn out the Government, England would be tolerably disposed to disfranchise Ireland; and consideration of the consequences may induce sagacity. If Mr. Disraeli put the Government in a minority, and so tested the Government threat—"the Budget or a Dissolution"—Mr. Disraeli would only be bringing Government back to power with greater strength and chances than ever; and Fakradeen does not affect "combinations" for the sake of restlessness kaleidoscopic groupings. Mr. Disraeli is not ready; Lord Derby had no policy to announce last Saturday in St. James's-square, where Lady Derby allows followers—and Talpole would decidedly disavow from going to the country without a cry—without even a whimper about Protection—more especially as those "council committees," cut up so awfully this year; it would be no joke finding the Colonel Dickson class to "bleed." The budget, then, has a good chance of passing; and, of course, if Ministers saw they were safe from any attempts to turn them out, they would consent to one or two alterations in detail. So much the Radicals think they are entitled to ask as salve for forswearing their devotion to differentiation. And Gladstone, too, to have refused them this—Gladstone, the greatest differentiator of his age—a man who not only spread the one hide of Oxford over the whole of Rome—but, first of all, split all the hairs!

But isn't this position of Radicalism,—obliged to vote for that income-tax which their Committee reported against, and which they told their constituents they would never have,—rather impotent and ludicrous? "There is not the slightest compulsion," an independent government observes, "but if you don't vote against us, certainly,—we'll dissolve and appoint. There's the pound of flesh you bargained for,—will you 'bleed'?" People's party is sulky, but tamed: the "Manchester school," which talked so large on Monday night, on Tuesday, and even on Wednesday, finds even Manchester is not with it, and glomously gives way. They don't like the Government; they are angry with Palmerston for his too-too to Francis Joseph; they are vexed with Osborne because he only jests at them; with Molesworth because, like other parvenus, he affects having lived in the Cabinet all his life, and has got more short-sighted than ever—the

constant glare of red tape and red boxes has that effect on our public men. They are angry, generally, because they would have given Government *carte blanche* if they only got the differentiation—that point over which Mr. Hume, like Mr. Dick, can never get in his "memorials." Ask the milder Radicals what they will do, and they say, "I won't play Disraeli's game—he's a dangerous man." Ask the more ultra, and they shrug their shoulders, and say, "What's the use of dissolving before a Reform Bill? What's the use of riddling another House through that Committee corridor which stinks of corruption already?" But, still, people's party would be more powerful if they would do what the Brigade do—stick together, and propose terms—for Lord Aberdeen is the most impressionable of men, as Lord John is supposed to know now, and as Prince Albert knew when he chose him to govern England. The great want of the Radicals is a leader—not for the nonce—there are only too many clever men among them—but for private influence and control; and until they get hold of a man with the position and character to fashion them into rational organization, they will always be comparatively useless for the people, and as grumbling and unhappy a set as they are this week. Lord Goderich, promising to be the better Russell of a nobler liberalism, may see his way when he is older, and when Mr. Dick has finished his memorial: but when the Democracy's delegates go into the Chesham Place dining-room to-day, they will be very helpless for want of a plan: and Lord John will find the screw of dissolution effectual for all Mr. Gladstone's purposes. Undoubtedly, however, the weakness of the radical position is to be traced, not only to their own bad tactics, but to the distinct acceptance of the budget by the country. Mr. Gladstone has passed on to the first place in the eyes of the nation, as financier; and, after all, in this country, your greatest financier is your greatest statesman. Peel won his Premiership by his practical grasp of the material business—the management of the taxes, so as to put them in the least unacceptable form; the great deficiency in Lord John Russell's career is, that his spirited generalizations about great principles have been unaccompanied by striking conceptions of finance; Mr. Disraeli broke down, as a prominent man, from being unequal to a budget occasion; and Mr. Gladstone, who has taken his business countrymen by storm, now must be watched for the future as the man into whose hands will by degrees come the wielding of Great British destinies. The "pony Peel" was a misnomer: he has succeeded to his chief as by a sort of natural inheritance. His new position in the country is reflected in the House of Commons; and the technical "leading" by Lord John now becomes not only ridiculous, but offensive. Mr. Gladstone stands high above all his colleagues, in either House, in personal and political character—in deep and earnest honesty of purpose—and in the amplitude of his knowledge, not only of the speciality of his department, but emphatically of public affairs; and obviously he was judged too hastily (journalists cannot help that) in supposing that he did not profoundly appreciate the tone of the House and the spirit of the dominant bodies of his countrymen. Boundless in his ambition, such a man for the future has those around him at his service. With a House of Commons position of twenty years, his lead becomes a privilege which exhausted resources like those of Lord John Russell can no longer dispute, and which there is not another man to pretend to. Mr. Gladstone answers at least to Mr. Disraeli's description of Peel—"the most perfect Member of Parliament in the country;" and he is something more than Peel—he has more dignity in his pose (Peel would have succeeded even more had he not been so plausible), and a finer tone as a speaker. The leading journal happily said of Mr. Gladstone's oratorical style, that it was "copious rotundity;" and that is exactly the style for Parliament, on great occasions. Mr. Gladstone, candid, argumentative, dignified, but deferential, is superb in debate; while, his only great parliamentary rival, Mr. Disraeli, is greater in a discussion (there is a strong distinction), because Mr. Disraeli aims at the "elegant conversation," which somebody said, taking only one view, was the correct House of Commons style. The two men should always be *vis-a-vis*—the eternal Pitt and Fox of the time—for Mr. Disraeli is unrivalled as the jostling, watchful, guerrilla leader of an Opposition; and Mr. Gladstone is the beau ideal of a spokesman of "her Majesty's Ministers." The budget is not only a collection of proposals; it is a great parliamentary performance; and when we speak of Mr. Gladstone's success on Monday, we should think of him not only as an actor, but as an actor. Lord Castlereagh used to say he wished to God the labour could be divided, and he'd do the thinking; if he were allowed to hire a fellow as a talker. Mr. Gladstone is the best talker of the day; after great study and care, certainly; and to have succeeded in the oratory of a budget so vast and complex

as this year's, is a feat which places him immeasurably above every one but the Opposition leader. A budget that took five hours to talk, delivered in a musical voice—sonorous, rounded, perfectly modulated, exquisitely arranged, as a speech, to awake and keep attention, piquing and teasing curiosity, sustained and sustaining the House from the first sentence to the last—that is something which, as an affair of voice and will, not more than half-a-dozen men in the empire could do. It is not a speech; it is not an address; it is a statement, a great state paper being oratorized; and there can be no giving way to thoughts that rush up as you go—which would be a relief—no yielding to the suggestion of a cheer or an interruption; there must be the most rigid restraint over the crowding ideas—the most exact accuracy in the sentences, and even in the very words chosen—the most perfect balancing of parts; more than all, there must be no errors of commission—there must be no errors of omission; nothing must be put wrong, and nothing must be overlooked; and if you consider all this, and that this enormous mental process, with the enormous physical difficulty of managing the voice, keeping on the legs, and willing the most determined self-possession, goes on in a House crowded in every corner, representatives of an eager world—with an Opposition, daring and capable, before him, and, not less suggesting nervousness, colleagues who envy him or tremble for him, at his back,—you will allow that the man who gets through the work, and gets through it with a triumph, must be a wonderful person, with an intellectual vigour you hardly supposed humanity could attain. Yet Mr. Gladstone took it all quietly, and did it all quietly, and left the House and went home quietly—probably mentioning to Mrs. Gladstone, as a reason for being rather tired, that he had been saying a "few words" that evening. My belief is, that had there been no clock in the House he would have talked for a week—Wednesday's papers announcing to a wondering empire—"Left speaking"—and Thursday's beginning with, "After these preliminary remarks, Sir."

Overshadowed by the Budget, and the calculations its consequences force on attention, the other interests of the week are few. The old contrasts which I so often insist on presenting, as illustrations of a system which is only to be reformed in this age by laughter, are yet as visible this week as in all preceding weeks of recent sessions. The House of Lords has had a couple of religious debates: one on Maynooth, on Monday—Lord Winchelsea was telling his House that Popery was damnable, and ought not to be supported by a Protestant empire, while Mr. Gladstone, in the other, was proposing to get 3d. in the pound out of the incomes of Irish Roman-catholic gentlemen to carry on the said empire—and one, last night, on the necessity of clergy reserves to keep the Canadians to respectable Christianity. The anxiety of the Upper House about the Protestant religion was thus sufficiently shown; and it will be observed that last night the Bishop of Oxford—who spoke so eloquently in favour of new bishops at the Wednesday meeting, to raise a colonial Episcopal fund—was duly in his "place of peril," which he defined as the proper location of apostolical representatives. But take one or two of the subjects of the week to point the reality and the earnestness of the Christianity of Parliament. On Wednesday, some thirty or forty Scotch gentlemen joined in stating to the House of Commons that Scotland was so universally a drunken country that the sale of whiskey must be restrained as we restrain the sale of arsenic. Every night this week the Commons have received a report from a committee unseating members for bribery, or have appointed a commission practically to disfranchise some place or another for its general corruption; so that Sir John Tyrrell, late on Tuesday, a heavy country squire, never intended by nature to be up till twelve, and therefore rather bewildered at that hour—blustered out savagely that if they went on this way, why he'd be hanged if there'd be a borough member left. Then, also, on Tuesday, the House of Lords were considering the case of an Irish magistrate who had been suspended from office in consequence of partisan conduct at an election; and peer after peer pointed out that "intimidation" is the universal electoral system in Ireland—one peer attributing this to the priests, another peer mentioning the landlords, and both asseverations finding assurance in the evidence given before the Mayo Petition Committee, where it was clearly made out that the elector in Ireland is in rather a ticklish position, for if he votes for a Brigadier he loses his "holding," and if he votes for a Derbyite he loses his soul, and, as one of a pastoral and simple race, he prefers starvation to damnation. The Wednesday's sitting, and the Scotch drunkenness discussion, was very enlivening—such a day as the strangers haven't had for many a year. Observe who was leading the discussion, as framer of the bill—Mr. Forbes Mackenzie, Derbyite whipper-in, triumvir of the Carlton Club cellar, a member for Liverpool because

he would, and Mr. Cardwell would not, vote against the Maynooth grant. Why does he vote against the Maynooth grant? Because he thinks Popery fatal to the souls, and temporally mischievous to Irishmen. What religion would he substitute? His own, which is John Knox's, and which, after an influence of 300 years, has had such an effect that the Scotch confess themselves the most drunken of God's people. Surely Mr. Mackenzie should pause in attributing social and political results to particular religious creeds; should at least leave the now temperate Irish alone with their Popery, if they cannot have Calvinism without the "crater." But notice also the way in which all the Scotch gentlemen were nonplussed in the debate on their national sin by two English members. Mr. Heyworth, representing the teetotal interest, said to the Scotch gentlemen, Are you in earnest in your desire to reform your countrymen? If so, take the pledge; join me, and set an example to the nation. The Scotch gentlemen laughed; every one of them dined out, as Scotch members should that day, and with "politics on hand," did not "leave all claretless the unmoistened throttle." Then Mr. Henry Drummond—who is to the feast of reason in the House what the skeleton was to Egyptian debauches—said also, Are you in earnest? Then why do you not insist on such an observance of the Sabbath in your country that, as the people are not allowed to walk in the fields, or to see their friends in towns, you drive them into gloomy and solitary drinking at home? The Scotch gentlemen did not laugh at that; it was a bitter truth and told, and did good perhaps. But there are other odd facts to notice. Mr. Mackenzie, as Carlton Club cellar triumvir, distributed the election funds last July. What for? Why, to bribe some, and to make drunk all the electors. Observe, then, his morality; he opens the beer casks in England, but he shuts up the whiskey shops in Scotland. Accepting all his facts, however—Scotland painted by a Scotchman—why does he not urge on his party the expediency of leaving the colonies without bishops a little while longer, and also leaving Christianity to take care of itself in Canada, in order that there may be the undivided devotion of surplus wealth (its a place of peril for surplus wealth too) of Tories and Protestants to complete apostolic work in Scotland? Why issue a commission to investigate social consequences of John M'Hale in Ireland, and not inquire into social consequences of John Knox in Scotland? His party is going to beat the Government next week in the Lords on the Jew Bill, on the ground that it would unchristianise the Legislature. It is, therefore, taken for granted that every hon. member is a believer in the Christian faith, and that the precepts of Christianity are carried out in their integrity in society and politics by that House. Nothing is meant if that is not meant; and the Lords will gravely throw the bill out again on that ground distinctly. Lord Derby will induce the Lords to do this; and Lord Derby will then, next day, consult about Gladstone with Mr. Disraeli, his friend, and his lieutenant, who has openly and in a deliberate book vindicated the Jews on the ground, that if they had not caused the Great Sacrifice, noble lords and honourable members would never have been redeemed. That seems absurd; but that is what the Lords are going to do; and that is what Lord Derby will do afterwards. He will subsequently send for Forbes Mackenzie, and arrange what money would be wanting, and what men could be relied on, for an election. And all the lords who wont unchristianise the Legislature will subscribe handsomely, as they did last time, when one of them gave a cheque for 10,000l. Not for the new bishops. Not even to enable the poor clergyman's clothing society to have larger transactions in the east end of Holywell-street and the west end of the New-cut. Not at all. To buy the country: vary the phrase as you will, as Mr. Mackenzie will when he speaks of it to Mr. Brown; but that would be the fact: on a general election the country is in the market, and the Tory and Protestant party think it worth buying. Happy country—so rich that it can find a purchaser! And the election morale leads to the House morale. The noble lords and the honourable gentlemen buy the country; they, therefore, look leniently on Sir B. Hall's conviction of Mr. Stafford of having sold the navy. The House cheered Sir James Graham, who excels in elaborated obsequiousness of compliment, when that decidedly right honourable baronet said that Mr. Stafford's "personal honour" had been unimpaired. The leading journal does not agree with him: most people out of the House agree with the leading journal; but mark the morale of the acquittal and the cheer. Personal dishonour is in telling a lie—that is all; but there is no "personal" dishonour in selling the service. Had Mr. Stafford admitted a falsehood it would have been awkward; but he denied that; admitting, however, that he had done

all he could to return Government candidates, by walking with them through dockyards—and he remains an "honourable gentleman." And he voted against unchristianising the legislature; and he'll dine with the Bishop of Oxford before the month is out.

The great Budget, and the immense personal success of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, have no doubt raised the Government out of the slough into which their negotiations were dragging them. The Free-trade Budget gives them the forward and positive position which they wanted. They looked liberal and full of life facing Lord Derby and his Carlton friends last night in the Lords with their Canada Bill, based on a principle originating with them—absolute colonial self-government. They look well when Mr. Fitzroy brought in a Cab-Reform Bill—the real sort of Reform Bill wanted by a cynical and material nation. Administrative Reform is the forte of a coalition, who, afraid of one another, fear to face principles; and such a set of resolutions as Mr. James Wilson has put out on Customs Reform, and such bills as those of Mr. Cardwell on Pilotage and Mercantile Marine gratify inordinately that vast commercial community who are so much in the lobby, and have consequently so much to do with the tendencies of an enlightened house, which cheerfully cheers protests against class legislation. Last Saturday, after a week which had known Lord John Russell's drivel about Taxes on Knowledge (on Milner Gibson's motion), and which had become acquainted with Lord Palmerston's anxiety to introduce a Viennese police system to the emulation of Sir Richard Mayne and Mr. Whittle Harvey, the Government stood very queerly; and people were believing in the exactness of Mr. Disraeli's boast. This present Saturday the Government is a really strong and successful and positive Government, so that Lord John is pronounced unwise to open No. 32, Chesham-place, at all. But though Mr. Gladstone has pronounced, Lord Palmerston is silent about Kossuth, and a police-court revelation, such as to-day is to give at Bow-street, of the Home-office new spy system, may undo a great deal that has been well done. We have this surety,—Sir William Molesworth and Ralph Osborne, two fine-natured men, are in the Ministry, and we may so far take for granted that Lord Palmerston and Lord Clarendon are not so suspiciously reactionary as appearances suggest; for, of course, the Radical members of the Coalition would not be in Downing-street if it were acting as an agency for Schönbrunn. In the same way, we are bound to assume that Mr. Keogh, when he comes back from Athlone, will tender his resignation, unless he is satisfied that at least all the Peelites of the Coalition will vote with Mr. Serjeant Shee in May (May meetings going on the same day!) for the repeal of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill.

Saturday Morning.

A REFORMED NEWS TAX.

THE Society for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge have made their first public impression on the Government. Mr. Milner Gibson's very able speech, no less than his strong case, induced the House to mark by its reprobation one of the three imposts on intelligence which disgrace our statute books. Mr. Gladstone has since told us that the Government had previously resolved upon some concession on this head; but, as Mr. Bright well observed in the Thursday's debate, he never knew any tax repealed unless somebody first asked for it. And the public owe the present proposal of the Ministers to the afore-said society's agitation. Now is the time when the friends of the repeal of these taxes should adopt the advice of the Society in Great Coram Street, and petition Parliament without delay to proceed in the course in which it has begun, until the newspaper stamp and the excise on paper are swept away.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has made a singular omission in proposing to abolish the stamp on supplements, and not at the same time repealing the law which limits the size of newspapers. The abolition of the tax on Supplements abolishes the motive for restricting the size of newspapers; and unless the size of a paper can be augmented at pleasure, the licensing of Supplements will, in some cases, be of little value. Free supplements may be a bonus to the *Times*—a nullity to the *Daily News*.

While acknowledgments are due to the Government, which has been the first since 1836 to meddle with these infamous imposts, we trust the House of Commons will insist on its moderate vote in favour of the entire repeal of the advertisement duty not being treated with disrespect by Mr. Gladstone. To retain the *sixpence* duty is still to retain an impediment to the existence of a many cheap working man's papers. The advertisement being quite untaxed would enable many humble papers to exist, which otherwise will uselessly continue to be kept down. It is an unpleasant aspect of the Government's intention this of continuing

to force the journalist into contact with the Stamp-office, and of keeping up such a degree of taxation as shall limit popular advertising and working-class journals. If but a partial concession is to be made—if two out of the imposts are to remain—let the one condemned by the House of Commons be conceded frankly, and to some really popular service.

Taxes may be wanted for the purpose of revenue; this no one disputes, but they ought never to be levelled in an immoral or arbitrary way. Now, a tax which the poor cannot pay and the capitalist can, becomes a privilege to wealth, and an oppression to poverty. Financiers have a right to devise means for raising revenue, but not to commit gross popular injustice in obtaining it. Let the House agree to repeal the advertisement duty entirely. In 1836 they reduced the newspaper stamp to one penny, retaining the "worst penny" of all. Let them not now imitate that pernicious step, and of the three sixpences on advertisements retain the last—the worst sixpence of all.

If the Chancellor of the Exchequer merely wants revenue, and is friendly to the working-class newspaper, let him change the newspaper stamp into an *ad valorem* one. Then the sixpenny paper will, as now, pay one penny, and the penny newspaper pay one-sixth of a penny. The three-penny newspaper will bear a half-penny stamp. Let there be a clear definition of "news," so that the present papers not now stamped, and defined by the Stamp-office not to be newspapers, may still be free. But "news" once well defined, and the stamp an *ad valorem* one, penny and twopenny newspapers would be possible, providing that the postal privilege were proportionally accorded to all copies bearing the *ad valorem* stamp, and the proprietors not compelled to stamp any but the post edition. The new stamp, involving the postal privilege as now, would be, as it is required to be, and ought to be, *auxiliary* to the transmission of the news it licensed, and would in its operation be equitable to existing newspapers, tolerable to the public, and profitable to the revenue.

OUR GREAT MORAL INSTRUCTOR.

IN two successive articles—one on Thursday and one yesterday—the *Times* disputes the justice of the verdict of acquittal pronounced by the House of Commons in regard to the accusations touching the personal honour of Mr. Stafford, and reiterates its original startling statement, that that gentleman had been guilty in his official communications with the House of a direct falsehood. And the *Times* is elaborately eloquent on the sin of lying in English gentlemen.

In an article of Friday, April 15th, the *Times*, it will be remembered, announced that a house "in the occupation of M. Kossuth" had been entered by the police on a Secretary of State's warrant. That evening, Sir Joshua Walsley, in his capacity as a friend of Kossuth's, obtained from Lord Palmerston an assurance that though a suspected house had come under the surveillance of the police, that house was not Kossuth's house. On the Saturday, several journals indignantly protested against the baseless and foolishly-malicious accusation of the *Times*, and we ourselves gave a detailed statement, which completely exploded the pretence of "the leading journal."

On the following Monday, having been silent on Saturday, the *Times* returned to its charge, reiterated the malice, and thus endeavoured to defend its inaccuracy:—"In using the expression, 'a house in the occupation of M. Kossuth,' we never intended to describe his dwelling-house, because we were aware that this seizure had been made at a manufactory in or near Rotherhithe, while M. Kossuth lives at Bayswater."

Turning back to the former article, on the Friday, we find this expression—"The result of this investigation (namely, by the police, of a house in the occupation of M. Kossuth), was the discovery of a large store of arms, ammunition, and materials of war, which may be the stock-in-trade of a political incendiary, but certainly form no part of the household goods of a private gentleman living in pacific retirement." Connect the reference to "household goods" with the mention of "a house in the occupation of M. Kossuth," and the meaning is obvious.

The gentleman, we take for granted, the official Editor of the *Times*, who wrote the article which appeared in the Monday's paper, must have had the article which appeared in Friday's paper by his side when he wrote; and obviously he wrote what he knew to be a falsehood.

Is not the Editor of the *Times*, then, forbidden by decency to protrude himself as the critic of Mr. Stafford? Yet it is to that venacious journal that the Government is presenting a clear 25,000*l.* a-year, by removing the stamp upon advertisement supplements. Does the country consider the morality worth the sacrifice of so much revenue?

Our Correspondence on the Budget.

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BUDGET.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE budget of Mr. Gladstone, and the speech of Monday which introduced it, will be discussed in this paper with reference, not so much to the bearing of the details on particular interests, as to illustrations of principles, and the indications of progress which are afforded.

The principal points in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's masterly speech of nearly five hours' duration,

may be thus epitomized. The revenue of the year just closed has proved larger, and the expenditure smaller, than Mr. Disraeli estimated them at the beginning of the financial year, and even in last December: the apparent surplus is 2,400,000*l.*; but of this 1,400,000*l.* is already disposed of. The expenditure of the coming year is estimated at 52,183,000*l.*, and the income at 52,990,000*l.*; the apparent surplus is 807,000*l.*, or more safely, 700,000*l.*, of which 215,000*l.* is from temporary sources. Shipping and wine are to remain as they now are. The sugar interest is to be relieved rather by improving the colonial governments than by fiscal changes at home. The Exchequer loan fund is to remain.

The income-tax has been of the greatest importance in emergencies, and it may be so again if it be not previously spoiled; but it has essential faults, which make it for a permanent part of our system, and it cannot be amended. It is therefore to be extended to income of 100*l.* per annum, and to Ireland, and to be continued for seven years on a reducing scale, and eventually to be replaced by means which Mr. Gladstone indicated.

The legacy duty is to be enlarged, so as to include all successions by death, whatever the nature of the property; but a distinction as to the amount of the tax is to be made in favour of rateable property, on account of its local burdens; the duty on such property to be calculated on only the life interest of the successor, clear of inheritance, and to be payable in eight half-yearly instalments.

The spirit duties are to be increased in Ireland and Scotland, with allowance, however, for waste of spirits in bond. The duties on some licences are to be increased.

Altogether the new taxes, together with the existing surplus, will give a fund of 2,149,000*l.*, available for remission of taxation.

Ireland is to be forgiven a debt to the Imperial Exchequer of 4,500,000*l.*; while, on the other hand, she is to be subjected to the income-tax, as a great step towards uniformity of taxation with England.

The soap duty is to be entirely repealed. The duty on life insurances is to be greatly reduced. Receipt stamps, and the inconvenience of them, are to be replaced by a single penny Post-office stamp in most cases. Indentures of apprenticeship, where there is no consideration, are to bear in future but a very small tax. The taxes on attorneys are to be diminished. Advertisements are to pay 6*d.* each, instead of 1*s.* 6*d.*; but supplements to newspapers are to be relieved of the stamp. Hackney carriages in London are to pay seven shillings, instead of ten shillings, per week each. The assessed taxes are to be remodelled and diminished, the post-horse duties to be simplified, and the redemption of the land-tax is to be facilitated.

The duty on tea is to be reduced from 2*s.* 2*d.* 4*d.* per pound to 1*s.* per pound in the course of three years. The Customs are to be simplified, duties on a variety of articles of consumption reduced, and 133 articles relieved of customs' duty altogether.

The total remission of taxation is apparently, for the present year, 2,568,000*l.*, but after making allowance for increase of consumption under diminished duties, will probably not exceed 1,656,000*l.*; or, as to immediate results, the new taxes and the old surplus will amount to 2,149,000*l.*, the remissions to 1,656,000*l.*, the surplus to 493,000*l.*, including, however, 200,000*l.* of temporary receipts.

In the following year, the remission of taxes will reach the figure of 5,384,000*l.* Mr. Gladstone calculates, from former instances, that in seven or eight years the taxes now reduced will recover themselves, so that the diminished duties will produce the old amount through an increased consumption. From this point he starts, in showing how the income-tax is to be got rid of in 1860. The new taxes now imposed will by that time yield about 2,549,000*l.*; the 3*d.* per cent. will also have fallen in to the amount of 624,000*l.*; and the Long Annuities to that of 2,146,000*l.*; the ordinary annual reduction in the interest and charges of the debt, which is at an average rate of about 80,000*l.* per annum, will meanwhile have afforded an annual relief of 640,000*l.* These items reach together to 5,959,000*l.*, or within a trifle of the 6,140,000*l.* raised by income-tax, which it is proposed then to abolish.

The points arising out of this statement for discussion are of vast importance, not so much in their present application, as in their fundamental principles and eventual issues. Mr. Gladstone says, that the income-tax can neither be amended nor continued; he remits large amounts of indirect taxation; and the principal new tax is a tax on all property in the shape of a legacy duty. That is—he says a permanent tax on income is simply impossible; a tax on consumption is highly injurious; and a tax on property is the just expedient for replacing both. The general character of the change is from a tax on yearly results to a tax on permanent possessions. It will be necessary, for several reasons, to look into the details more particularly, in doing which we shall employ the word "see-

consumption," to denote that which is enjoyed within the year, and which is, in most cases, but not necessarily, destroyed in the enjoyment of it.

The new taxes, taken at the amount they are expected to reach after the present year, are as follows:—

Nett increase of the spirit duties £436,000	
" " license " 113,000	
Total nett increase of the taxes on consumption	£549,000
Total nett (temporary) increase of the tax on income	500,000
Total nett increase of the taxes on property, consisting of the extension of the legacy duty	2,000,000
Total NEW TAXES on the three great divisions of consumption, income, and property	3,139,000
The reductions and abolitions, as they will eventually appear, are as follows:—	
Soap	1,126,000
Stamps, advertisements, and hackney carriages	420,000
Assessed taxes	290,000
Post-horse duty	54,000
Colonial postage	40,000
Customs	3,385,000
	5,315,000

All these reductions and abolitions are of taxes on consumption, except the following:—

Indentures and attorney's certificates	£50,000
Carriages, horses, and dogs	203,000
Deduct therefore	253,000
There remains the total of the reductions and abolitions of the taxes on consumption	5,062,000
Subtract the new taxes on consumption, given above	549,000

and the nett reduction of taxes on consumption is

	4,513,000
This is partly to be met by reductions of charge on the debt, amounting to	3,410,000
Leaving to be provided for by other taxes instead of those on consumption, which have been repealed	1,103,000

Which is proposed to be done by a legacy duty, i.e., a tax on property, to the amount of 2,000,000.

Here, then, we have taxes on consumption and income repealed, and their place taken, as far as their amount is required, entirely by a tax on property. Our object will be to show that this change is a necessary consequence of principles which cannot be evaded, not a mere device of financial discretion and ingenuity; and we propose to show this from Mr. Gladstone's own speech, although the right honourable gentleman might be unconscious of the principles which controlled him, and would, most probably, strenuously resist our conclusion.

First, then; the legacy duty is strictly a tax on property, levied once in a man's life instead of every year. In its old form it did not hold so exact a parallel to a true annual tax on property as in its new one; for then it was a reversed life assurance, falling heavily on short lives and frequent successions to the same property, and lightly on long lives; but now the duty is to be taken only on the life interest, not on the entire capital value; so that it amounts only to a tax on property, paid for life on entering into possession of it, subject to a compulsory commutation with the effect of the purchase of an annuity. All the difficulties of valuation, so strenuously alleged when property is proposed as the sole basis of taxation, are here taken for nothing; and all the property in the kingdom is to be valued for legacy duty, although it is said it could not be valued for direct taxation. It would not be difficult to show that an annual valuation, when once established as the basis of a system, would be the easier and truer operation. The principle and the practicability of a direct tax on property are, however, clearly admitted in fact by the proposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, whatever the expression of his theoretical opinions.

To what is it that Mr. Gladstone prefers this tax on property? First, he prefers it to a tax on income. His arguments against the latter are such as these:—While it is too unjust in its present form to be continued, it is of such a nature that it cannot be amended. Income often runs into property, and property into income, so that no just test can be laid down which will in all cases distinguish the income to be assessed. Income taxes are manifestly worth less than others of equal amount; and yet you can devise no rule which will accurately and fairly divide incomes into classes for purposes of taxation, since any rule which seems to suit one set of cases either unfairly taxes, or as unfairly exempts another; so interwoven and so infinitely varied are the engagements and contrivances of our social life. You cannot strike averages, for the instances are so

extreme that you cannot avoid cruelly crushing one, or ludicrously failing to touch the other. You have not even the means of knowing with certainty what any single income is which you propose to tax; for, if you insist on ascertaining for yourself, you will violate privacies which every man feels he has a right to have respected, and the general discontent will generate eventual resistance; while if you leave every man to state his income for himself, you find yourself miserably cheated, and you put every man under a temptation to cheat you. Those, stated in our own words, are Mr. Gladstone's reasons for rejecting the income-tax, reasons which condemn it specifically as a tax on income, and not merely as our particular income-tax.

All the other taxes repealed or reduced are taxes on consumption. We take one as a specimen—the tax on soap. This tax deteriorates and renders costly the manufacture, it diminishes exportation, it prevents improvement, it discourages cleanliness. For every penny the Government receives from it the people lose twopence—that is, taking the tax and its consequences together. To show how far the ill effects of this tax extend, Mr. Gladstone referred to the large consumption of palm-oil, and the consequent increase of legitimate commerce in Africa, which it prevents.

There is, however, in fact, little more to be said against this than against most other taxes on consumable commodities. They all debase manufacture, limit commerce, and stunt enjoyment. The tax on tea acts on our intercourse with China, that on silk on our trade with Italy, the Levant, and India, and so on. The corn-laws were only a gross case of the same class. Trace each tax as Mr. Gladstone traced that on soap, and effects may be everywhere detected, equal either to the additional filth of a metropolitan alley, or to the stunted and debased commerce of an African river.

Mr. Gladstone can hardly suppose that his present recession of the taxes on consumption will be the last. Just the same things have been said before of taxes then to be abolished, and the soap-tax, now deemed the worst, was then retained as not so bad as some others. The repeal of those taxes has given room for the display of the faults of this; and the effects of the repeal of the soap-tax will add new instances to the old arguments for the repeal of the remainder, one by one. The unsoundness is in the whole class as taxes on consumption, and not singly and particularly in the demerits of each several tax; an unsoundness which indeed is plainly shown in every successive case as it is brought up for examination, but which belongs to the nature of every one of them. The Chancellor of the Exchequer may himself have to show the same chief faults in other taxes, as he now exhibits in that on soap.

Before we quit this class of taxes, it is necessary to notice Mr. Gladstone's expectation that in eight or nine years they will recover, through increased consumption, the amounts by which they are now reduced. Of all formulae those derived from experience need perhaps the greatest care in their application; and before the Chancellor of the Exchequer trusts to former example to justify his expectation, he may well inquire whether he has not passed the point which, in going downwards, gives the maximum revenue, and is not approaching the lower limit, where of course no tax would give no revenue, whatever the amount of consumption. If so he is only laying up another argument for the future repeal of the remaining taxes on consumption, for they will be found to produce nothing worth the evils which attach to every tax of that kind by the very terms of its existence, however small the sum it yields.

Collecting these results, it appears beyond question that Mr. Gladstone's substitution of a tax on property, for taxes on income and consumption, is a result of principles which, whether he recognised them or not, really determined his course. Probably he sees them yet but imperfectly, for he says, "I think income is the proper basis of taxation." But it is no trifling practical attestation of the truth of the views we have advanced, that of two successive Chancellors of the Exchequer struggling to effect such fiscal reforms as the situation of the country and their own reputation required, Mr. Disraeli last year, in express words, avowed his conviction of the future prevalence of direct taxation, and now Mr. Gladstone admits the same doctrine, by the stronger voice of measures for carrying it into effect. For ourselves we draw from the present budget the strongest confirmations of our principle, that nearly all the errors of taxation arise from the substitution of income for its basis instead of property.

PREPAID TAXATION.

To the Editor of the Leader.

SIR,—On the 31st of December last, I had the honour of submitting to the Government a proposition for a Government Tax upon Railway-tickets, either *ad valorem* or fixed; and at the same time I called its attention to imposing similar duties on other things of the like nature. Since then I have addressed the Chancellor of the Exche-

quer, the Right Honourable B. Disraeli, Lord W. P. Lennox, and Mr. Hume, M.P., and various other eminent persons on the same subject. It was somewhat singular that in the *Times*, of the 16th instant, there appeared a letter from Lord W. P. Lennox advocating the same principle; confining it however to Railway-tickets. May I beg the favour through your columns of laying my proposition to the Parliament and the public in a more detailed form?

My proposition is (*inter alia*) as follows, namely, that there should be a prepaid tax (amongst others) under the following Schedules, namely:—

Schedule 1.—On railway-tickets, 1st, 2nd, 3rd class (not Parliamentary), and not to extend to stations or distances of (say) ten miles—1st class, 3d.; 2nd class, 2d.; and 3rd class, 1d. Also, (say) 1d. on every official letter, proxy-papers for voting, &c. It has been computed with exactness that this would yield the Government a revenue of 400,000*l.* per annum. Some modifications might be made as to season-tickets, return-tickets, &c. Steamboat-tickets belong to the same class.

Schedule 2.—Professional and trade-bills for work done and goods sold, tavern-bills, &c., to be delivered with a penny stamp. This would prevent evasion. I would embrace all such bills exceeding the amount probably of 1*l.* There can be no exact computation as to what this may yield, but say 150,000*l.* per annum.

Schedule 3.—Magisterial, county-court, and all inferior tribunal forms, writs of summons in superior courts, judges' summonses, notices to quit, not to trespass, &c., &c.; leaving for consideration in detail the amplification or contraction of the principle, including all judicial and extra-judicial forms. What this may produce it is not in my power to state with exactness—say 200,000*l.* per annum.

Schedule 4.—Amusement-tickets, including box and other tickets when issued for theatres, zoological, botanical and horticultural gardens, concerts, exhibitions of paintings, &c. But not to extend to natural exhibitions, &c.

Schedule 5.—Bankers' checks, transfer of stock, railway shares, &c.

Miscellaneous Schedule.—Electric-telegraph-messages, tickets, or any other document which might be likely to come before a court of justice for evidence, registry of deeds, &c. The police-women, such as Mr. Fitzroy proposes might be appointed at cabstands, instead of the present watermen, to take the prepaid 1d. of the driver of every hackney-carriage arriving on the stand; and then the passenger would not be hindered and annoyed as he is at present. This especially applies to the case of ladies, and it undoubtedly contributes to serious inconveniences, such as the loss of the railway trains.

All the business of issuing tickets can be done at Somerset-house, without the creation of new machinery. The stamps on tradesmen's bills would prevent those mistakes which often arise from carelessness, of a bill being delivered several times after payment. Advertising bills, circulars, and the like, would be charged with a duty of so much per thousand, and be impressed with a distinguishing stamp; or they could go free per post if stamped with a penny each. The extension of taxing to advertisements of all kinds would only be fair to newspapers; and it would probably put a stop to the disgusting bills which are thrust at you in the streets—a nuisance especially disgusting when ladies are of the party.

There is no reason why attested copies of deeds should be stamped any more than abstracts of title, conditions and particulars of sale, catalogues, &c., &c. Every proxy-paper relating to real and personal transactions, should be taxed with 1*l.* Parties registering estates would readily pay the penny tax on the receipt given; indeed Mr. Gladstone has recognised the principle. Serrants at the various registry-offices would do the like, and it would be a great protection to them.

This letter is merely introductory, and if you think well of the principle I shall trouble you again. I am perfectly convinced that these taxes, with others of a like principle which I have to submit, will be cheerfully paid by every one. It would scarcely be necessary to enforce so light a tax by heavy penalties; but the refusal of validity to any document named in the schedules without the appointed stamp, would in most cases be sufficient. I enter on this subject, Sir, without any reference to politics, offering the suggestion for the adoption of "The Government of the day."

This mode of taxation would furnish the means for still further relieving the springs of industry, and would, I believe, ultimately prove for the advancement and glory of the country.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
RICHARD JOHN COLE.

12, Farnival's Inn, 20th April, 1853.

[The Budget season has set people at the work of invention, and a really valuable suggestion is here thrown out by Mr. J. R. Cole in anticipation—that of extending the principle of pre-paid taxation. Mr. Cole suggests the extensive use of a penny-tax in the form of a stamp for all such documents as are current for the purpose of evidence or of securing rights; such as railway-tickets, admission-tickets, receipts of registration, bills of charges, &c.]

The idea seems to have received considerable public favour, almost as soon as the whisper of it gets abroad. Two separate letters appeared in the *Times* yesterday, pointing to applications of it; Lord William Lennox suggests the railway penny-tax, which seems to have occurred to his own mind; and indeed Mr. Gladstone's penny receipt stamp virtually sanctions the suggestion which our own correspondent, Mr. Cole, suggested to Lord Aberdeen in an introductory letter in December last.

Divines are wont to urge their congregations to penny subscriptions, as easy and productive; the use of the postage-stamps shows what immense sums can easily be collected in the same way; and Mr. Cole's suggestion is a sufficient proof how readily active minds suited to the business can extend the principle of prepaid taxation on expenditure, in the form of stamps at a low money denomination.]

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them.—*Edinburgh Review*.

It seems generally understood in America that THACKERAY will not allow his experience of the Americans to pass away without some kindly or satirical record. They are wincing in anticipation. Yet there is no one who will more steadily recognise their great and unquestionable excellencies, while laughing at their foibles and exposing their vices. On this subject we were pleased to meet with the following manly remarks in an American paper:—

"We sincerely hope that the man will write a book about us—a book full of that sharp, discriminating satire, with which he hates individual and material foibles. The English tourists who have abused and libelled us, have nevertheless done us a great deal of good. They have cured us of very many bad habits, and laughed us out of much of that vain-glory, that has rendered the American Eagle a more absurd bird than the Gallic Cock. Many of the things in DICKENS and THOLOPE, pronounced by our outraged vanity libels, were truths, and our manners and habits as a nation, have been very much improved by the unsparring lash of our revilers. They have checked in a measure the impertinent curiosity of the Yankee—the telegraphic dispatch of the Southerner in bolting his dinner—and the Democratic Western custom of using the tooth brush of your neighbour, cutting your butter and tobacco with the same knife, and making the fiftieth portrait at the public towel of a steamboat.

"Complain and yell as loud as we choose, these unpopular authors and their books have done us good. We trust that THACKERAY will write a book about our snobs, our literary men, our Historical Associations, and Athenæums. If we are to be dissected annually by some English tourist, let our tormentor be no obscure hack or half educated cockney—but rather let us fall into the hands of the man who has grown grey and great in ridiculing the infirmities of our nature. If JONATHAN is green, savage, rough, and eccentric, he is at the same time a giant, rejoicing in energy and strength not less than that of JOHN BULL. A man possessing the bold, strong mind of THACKERAY, can at once appreciate our virtues, and detect our weaknesses. An unprejudiced work from such a man upon our social and political peculiarities, however humorous and severe, would deserve respect and consideration. Such a man, whilst witty and satirical, would never soil his pages by the coarse libels which obscure tourists heap upon us in their ephemeral productions. Such a book would possess the permanent value of an historical picture."

There is one thing universally forgotten by satirical Englishmen and by sensitive Americans complaining of satire, and that is the intolerance usually felt for minute differences in manners and customs. When an Englishman carries his prejudices and his standards to a foreign country, he does not expect to see them flattered and conformed to. He does not quarrel with the German, the Frenchman, the Italian, or the Spaniard, because their salivary glands are active, their acquaintance with water seldom attaining matutinal intimacy, and their breath usually bearing a perfume of garlic, stronger but not sweeter than the rose; the men are "foreigners," and all is said! Yet when the Englishman goes to America, meets with a race unmistakably his own, speaking his own language, worshipping his own classics, uttering his own sentiments, and in all essentials comporting itself as he and his English friends comport themselves, then he becomes sensitive to minute differences, just as he would were he to meet with them in his own circle at home. The Frenchman and German may spit, as foreigners; the American who spits cannot be pardoned.

It is always so. The Methodist hates the minuter Methodist more than he hates a Bishop. The Protestant is more furious with the Catholic than with the Jew. The Derbyite scorns the Peelite with a deadlier scorn than he has for the Cobdenite. And this feeling was admirably satirized by THACKERAY, in passing down the Strand one day with a friend, who pointed to an oyster-shop, wherein two barrels side by side severally bore the announcements 8d. a dozen and 9d. a dozen. "How they must hate each other!" said the sardonic wit; which of course they did.

Apropos of THACKERAY, we may mention that Messrs. SMITH and ELDER have recently published a portrait of him, engraved by FRANCIS HOLL, from LAWRENCE'S picture. The original we did not see, but in the engraving, while recognising the fidelity of the likeness, we miss the power and mingled melancholy and humour of THACKERAY'S face. It recalls the face, however, to those who have once seen it; and in virtue thereof we hang it on our walls.

It is easier to scotch a snake than to kill it,—easier to expose a delusion than to explode it. We did our best with the "Spirit Rappings," but daily letters inform us that correspondents remain true believers. We print one letter, on account of the grave declaration it contains; but we print it merely to guard against the accusation of onesidedness; and our doing so must not be taken as a precedent. We have already printed more than any other journal would print against its own convictions, and with the present letter we must cease.

Devonport, March 24, 1853.

My attention being drawn to the controversy published in your paper, I am induced, as a believer in the truthfulness of the "spirit manifestations," and as one desiring "to prove all things, and to hold fast that which is good," to send you my experience, with this wonderful but sublime subject, and, at the same time, to point out to you where I consider you have argued on false premises, with respect to the replies being furnished by the persons themselves, instead as represented by spirit friends. Your German correspondent states, that the word "Cognoc" was

foreign to his mind, he believing some word such as intemperance would be used. Here, then, is positive evidence against your theory. Besides, it is stated, in the same letter, that one of the party receiving communication, so shaded the alphabet, that the Medium could not observe what letters were rapped. Hence, if your views are correct, an unintelligible mass of letters would appear. Again, you state that the rappings are made by the Medium, but that they are not produced with the toes, as stated in the *Household Words*. I was much disappointed, on your admitting thus much, that you did not go further, and give us the result of your investigation, whence the "fairy sounds" are produced; for I opine you could not fail to discover, with the aid of your friends, the true cause; for, where a variety of sounds, or "rappings" take place, in the presence of many persons, thorough sceptics, and in a room where the Medium was never before, thereby precluding the possibility of any mechanism being used, there is a strong evidence of the sounds being supernaturally produced. Concerning the apparent mistakes which occasionally occur, take the following hypothesis, and which is borne out by spirit communication. There are, then, reliable and unreliable spirits. Individuals in the flesh move in one of seven spheres, and, when they die, go into the same circle as when living; consequently, if the party communicated with was in one of the lower spheres, the answers would not be of that sublime character, or so correct, as if of a spirit of one of the higher spheres. We daily meet individuals, who are not reliable spirits, in the flesh, and I assume their position is little or anything altered by death, for some time, at least. If this is not satisfactory logic, possibly the philosophy of the communication received from the spirit of the celebrated Dr. Franklin, inserted at the end of this letter, would commend itself to other minds in preference.

Now, Sir, I will give you my positive experience, and would premise that I was a sceptic on theological miracles, and, though not a decided disbeliever in a future state, allowed the subject to remain an open question on my mind. The tendency to this unbelief, arising from the miracles mentioned as performed in the Scriptures, being antagonistic to philosophical principles. But, Sir, when I find, at a distance of 250 miles from the Medium I was first introduced to, and in the privacy and stillness of my bed-chamber, I have had, on several occasions, those manifestations given me, as promised, by a very near relative, who is now in the spirit world, in consequence of a wish expressed, that I should often receive such communications, after arriving at Devonport. I must no longer halt between two opinions, and, therefore, all my scepticism vanishes; for, without presuming to think that I am spiritually favoured, I cannot but believe that some influence is shown in my case, and, I may truly say, the scales have fallen from my eyes, causing me to believe those manifestations are calculated and intended to break down the wide spread of infidelity, which so notoriously abounds.

Why, Mr. Editor, should we not, at this highly-wrought age, be subject to these "ministrations of angels," as we are led to believe were caused in darker periods of the earth's existence, and in various epochs since? Some of our greatest writers—take Shakespeare, who continually mentions those presences, (it may be said being a poet he had a licence,) shows his mind to have a strong tendency to spiritual communion. Dr. Home, in his beautiful tragedy of *Douglas*, writes:—"If ancestry can be in aught believed, departed spirits have conversed with man, and told the secrets of the world unknown."

A mass of written evidence might be adduced—see Mrs. Crowe's *Night Side of Nature*—where good testimony is given of such spiritual presences. I am now only surprised, since my introduction to this subject, at the number of persons I have met with, who have been subject, at some period of their lives, with supernatural manifestations. I, then, believe, Sir, that, through a highly-developed medium, any person who is devout, and provided they do not show levity, such solemn assurances will be presented to them, as will satisfy even sceptics, that they are conversing with spirits, who were once in the flesh. One such communication was made to me. "I have watched you with a father's watchful eye, ever since my body was taken from your sight, trying to guide you aright. In all things, do right, my son, and God will bless you. From your father, in heaven."

"It is a beautiful belief,
That ever round our head,
Are hovering, on angel wings,
The spirits of the dead."

You complain that the Doctor, in his letter to you, has not met your argument with anything like proof. I humbly think I have advanced some, totally apart from the influence of Mrs. Hayden. But I do not rest here. I can state that a relative of mine, in town, has discovered, in his family, a "medium," through whom he has received "spirit communications."

I will now give you what took place during a second séance I had in November last, just after the publication of the article in Dickens' *Household Words*, entitled, "The Ghost of the Cock-lane Ghost." I called with a friend, in the afternoon, but found that Mrs. Hayden was engaged to go to a séance, and it was agreed that after her return I should put myself in communication. During her absence, Dickens's article and its result was canvassed. Mr. Stone informed us he had written to the editor, admitting he, the editor, had received unsatisfactory replies, but complaining of the haste to which he had jumped to a conclusion, and of the inference he drew that Mrs. Hayden was deserving the treadmill. Mr. Stone called on the writer of the article, in the name of the British public, whose laws were violated if he could prove his case, to appoint a meeting anywhere, and composed of various parties, to test the matter. I was informed no notice was taken of this challenge.

About seven o'clock that evening we formed the circle, and soon obtained very distinct—aye, very loud—rappings. During the progress of receiving many communications (which, from the length of this letter I will not be tedious to mention, but many of which could only be answered by the spirit, as known to him when in the flesh), we were surprised to hear a kind of rapping more emphatic in sound, and found that another spirit wished to communicate. I had the pencil in my hand, and wrote down the following: "I do not wish you to trouble yourself about Dickens. It was a plan of ours to help you in this mighty work. Pay no heed to him, we will work out our salvation, and all believers in this field shall be duly rewarded. We have promised and we will perform. Falter not, my friends, God and angels protect and watch over you." I said, "Please give us your signature." "Benjamin Franklin, November 21, Sunday;" was distinctly rapped. Various questions were put, one of which I will quote. It is thus: "We are given to understand from you (the spirits) that we are on the eve of great spiritual changes, and that we shall shortly be able to converse audibly with spirits, when the world is prepared for it. How long before this will happen?" "Between one and two years." "Where will it first manifest itself?" "In America, because

it is a more progressive country—further advanced in spiritualism." After some more questions and answers, he bade us "Good bye." I will not further take up your space, but must mention that I have witnessed the moving of the table at my request, when I have been sitting, without any human aid from the three persons present.—I am, Sir, yours truly,
Z.

Let us clear up the misconception of our assertion respecting the Alphabet. We never said that Mrs. HAYDEN could see the letters at which the pencil rested when the raps were given, for, according to our explanation of the trick, it is perfectly needless that she should see them. Inasmuch as she does not know what letter is the right one, and must therefore gain her clue from the patient; all she wants is to notice when, by his manner, by the lingering of the pencil, by the suspension of his breath, or by the eagerness of his face, he expects the rap to come, and then she raps. Thus, a patient may even stand behind her, and provided he taps the alphabet with his pencil, as he passes to each letter, the indication will suffice.

The rest of Z.'s letter we leave to the reader. We shall probably be asked, "How do you account for Z. having received those communications?" Our reply is simple: we are not in the habit of accounting for things of which we have no knowledge, and of which we cannot be sure that we have all the facts. We do not account for this; nor, assuredly, do we believe it. We have no reason to doubt Z.'s word; but we have every reason to reject every tittle of his inferences.

The delusion is gaining a fresh field in Germany. At tables d'hôte, in the cafés, on 'Change, in the theatres, everywhere people are talking of these "Rappings" and "Tablemovings." In Hamburg one of the theatres has made it the subject of a Farce called *Die Klopfgeister*, the Spirit-Rappers. The newspapers are almost daily publishing new experiments. The first who drew attention to the subject, following upon a reprint of the article in the *Leader*, was Dr. KARL ANDRÉE, whose name gives some weight to the topic, he having been celebrated in Germany as a political writer of moderate views, and editor of the *Bremer Zeitung*. This Dr. ANDRÉE has nothing whatever to do with Spirits or Mediums. He confines himself to the moving of tables by means of the "galvanic force," supposed to be elicited from a party of men and woman seated in a circle with joined hands. In Hamburg, in Breslau, in Vienna, in Elberfeld, in Bremer, tables are dancing about as if they were mad; and numerous "well attested" recitals appear in the German papers for the benefit of those who can believe, and those who can laugh. The credulous will regard our scepticism with feelings of pity, but we say with OKEN, when president of the Natural History Society, on the occasion of a discussion about a shower of frogs: "A worthy pastor declares to you, gentlemen, that he has seen the frogs come down like a shower of rain from the clouds; we cannot but credit the pastor, for have we any right to doubt of a shower of frogs which human eyes have seen? All I can say is, that it is lucky I didn't see the shower, for I shouldn't have believed my own eyes—*gut, das es meine Augen nicht waren, denn ich würde ihnen dann nicht geglaubt haben!*"

M. ALEXANDRE THOMAS, well known to the readers of *La Revue des Deux Mondes* as an admirable writer, is about to give a course of Lectures on the Ideas and Manners of France during the *Grand Siècle*, drawn principally from the Correspondence of Madame de SEVIGNÉ—Life in the Provinces—Life in Paris—Life at Court—and the Progress of Literary Taste are the principal subjects of this course. We commend these Lectures to the notice of our readers, and will do our best to find space for some report of them as they are delivered. The first of the series will be delivered on Friday next.

A recent discovery with respect to the iodine in water, and its influence on the human organization is of too great an interest to be passed over here, the more so, as it may lead our Sanitary Philosophers to some fresh considerations.

The afflictions of *goitre* and cretinism, painfully familiar to all Alpine travellers, has always been attributed to the water drunk by the inhabitants of those districts which are the homes of these cretins. M. CHATIN many years ago announced, as the result of his investigations, that the absence of iodine from the water was the predisposing cause of the disease. He has recently placed this hypothesis beyond a doubt. Fully and Saillon, two villages on the right bank of the Rhone, although almost touching each other, have long been remarkable: one village, Fully, being a notorious cradle of cretinism; the other, Saillon, being as notoriously free from *goitre* or cretinism. Of late years, however, Saillon has in its turn become infected. And the reason, say the inhabitants, is none other than the sanitary measures recently taken to purify the water! Formerly the water of the Salente, before reaching the village, was wont to mingle with the streams of a hot spring, named *source de fer*. To bring purer water into the village, they altered its course, and turned it away from the hot spring. Observers declared that the date of the appearance of *goitre* in Saillon coincides pretty nearly with that of their being blessed with "pure water!" M. CHATIN investigated the matter; he analyzed the water of the Salente, the water of the hot spring, and the water where the two streams mingle; the results confirmed his previous publications: he found the Salente water free from iodine, and the water of the hot spring and of the two mingled strongly impregnated with it. The conclusion is irresistible: wherever the water in these districts is free from iodine cretinism and *goitre* are observed

among the inhabitants; wherever it is impregnated with iodine these diseases are absent. To "purify water" is not always to make it better adapted to our organism; and there may be some physiological instinct in that paradoxical lady's announcement, "I like water with a dead-cat-and-dog flavour in it."

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

- Poems. By the Rev. Claude Magnay.
The Picture Pleasure-book.
The Charm.
Uncle Tom's Cabin.
Men of the Time.
Narrative of a Journey round the World. By F. Gerstaecker. 3 vols.
Historical Outlines of Political Catholicism.
Odds and Ends. By A. E. Marshall.
The Great Sin of Great Cities.
The Christian Spectator.
An Address to Parliament on the Duties of Great Britain in India. By Charles Hay Cameron.
The Chemistry of Gold. By Nathan Mercer.
The Diary of Martha Bethune Balfour from 1753 to 1754.
Reuben Wines; or, the Forest of Example. By G. Hodder.
The Events of a Year. A Novel. By Emilie Carlen. 3 vols.
Arthur Clifton. A Novel. 3 vols.
Frank Merryweather. A Novel. By H. G. A. Young. 2 vols.
The Reasoner.
Lord Bacon and Sir Walter Raleigh. By the late Macreay Napier, Esq.
Reading for Travellers. Montenegro and the Slavonians of Turkey. By Count F. Krasinski.
An Essay upon the Philosophy of Evidence. By Watkin Williams.
Select Poems of Prior and Swift.
Hypatia; or, New Foes with an Old Face. By Charles Kingsley, Jun. 2 vols.
Christianity and Secularism. Report of a Public Discussion, between the Rev. Brewin Grant, M.A., and George Jacob Holgoake, Esq.
Half-a-Dozen Ballads for Australian Emigrants. By Martin F. Tupper.
The Pope in England; and Who Shall Turn Him Out? Three Letters to Sir William Broadland.
Bart. By Per Cler Jocelyn.
Æschylus' *Eumenides*. The Greek Text, with English Notes, Critical and Explanatory. By Bernard Drake, M.A.
The Key to Uncle Tom's Cabin. By H. B. Stowe.
The Idealist: a Dramatic Poem. By J. H. Rohrs, A.M.
Taxation: its Nature and Properties. By Alexander Gibson.
- W. Pickering.
Addey and Co.
Addey and Co.
Adam and Charles Black.
David Bogus.
Hurst and Blackett.
Chapman and Hall.
W. Pickering.
John Chapman.
W. Freeman.
Longman and Co.
Whitaker and Co.
Chapman and Hall.
W. Kent and Co.
T. C. Newby.
T. C. Newby.
T. C. Newby.
James Watson.
Macmillan and Co.
Chapman and Hall.
John Chapman.
John W. Parker.
John W. Parker and Son.
Ward and Co.
Thomas Bosworth.
Thomas Bosworth.
Macmillan and Co.
Clark, Beeton, and Co.
J. W. Parker and Son.
P. Richardson.

LORD GREY AS COLONIAL SECRETARY.

The Colonial History of Lord John Russell's Administration. By Earl Grey. 2 vols. Bentley.

THE aim and manner of this book are antagonistic. In fact, it is an appeal to the public; but it is written in the form of letters to Lord John Russell, and audience other than "my dear Lord John," is all but ignored, suggesting the idea that the volumes were printed for private circulation in Downing-street and its dependencies, and have escaped into public life through some mistake of the printer. As a clear statement of colonial affairs and official proceedings, the work is valuable; we have now evidence on both sides of many a vexed colonial question. The general tenor of Lord Grey's testimony is clearly satisfactory, to himself: excepting "one error in judgment," the Colonial Office seems to have been right all through the recent series of contests with colonies in all parts of the world. It certainly happened that Lord Grey's conduct provoked obstinate opposition, and caused bitter irritation, in many cases; but this book proves that this arose from the natural wickedness of human nature in general, and the perverse disposition of colonists in particular, to like everything injurious, and to detest everything for their good. Lord Grey is firm in this belief: even in cases where he yielded to the wishes of colonists, he was unconvinced, though conquered; he granted their prayer, as if to curse them with his consent; and he never fails to show how much the colonists lost by their obstinate opposition—winding up with a resigned sigh, expressing, "But it is their business, not mine." Had this wise thought come a little earlier, Lord Grey's official career might have been harmless.

When Whigs talk of Free-trade, they remind one of those gipsies who having saved an heir of the Buckingham family, were allowed to squat on the estate, rent free, for ever. The right to a like unconditional occupation of Downing-street, is the first article of belief with the true official Whig. Each paragraph of his litany of excuses, for all kinds of official faults, ends with "the great principles of Free-trade." "The effect is excellent." In explaining the differences with the sugar colonies, Lord Grey does not forget his catechism; the Protectionists were at the bottom of every disturbance. They stimulated the combined Court of Guiana to demand a reduction of salaries; and the Commissioners of Public Accounts, in Jamaica, still more wicked, were clearly inspired, *aut Diaboli, aut Disraeli*. The latter case illustrates the general question of the sugar colonies. The Jamaica assembly resolved on a reduction of official salaries, "in consonance with the impoverished condition of the island;" and as Commissioners of Public Accounts, having the collection and application of the revenue in their own hands, the resolution was of weight. But the Governor (Sir Charles Grey) seeing the cloven hoof of Protection in the assertion of poverty and the consequent course, refused his consent, again and again, to Retrenchment bills, in succession. The Assembly, thereupon, stopped the supplies for official salaries. An unseemly and perilous strife ensued; the Assembly was once dissolved, and several times prorogued; the prerogative of the Crown to pay its officers proper salaries out of the peoples' pockets, was zealously maintained; for (as in the case of Guiana) "it was absolutely necessary," says Lord Grey, "that they (the colonists) should be made to feel that we would not flinch from the course we had deliberately adopted." This fierce quarrel, in which the dignity of the Crown was directly pitted against the tax-payers of Jamaica, involved nothing less important and momentous, than the reduction from 1200*l.* to 900*l.* a year, of the salaries of half-a-dozen English barristers. To imply, as Lord Grey broadly does, that it involved the maintenance of Free-trade, is utterly absurd. When a legislature bases a bill on the consequences of Free-trade, it accepts the policy as an accomplished fact, and clinches it, by adapting the institutions of the country to the new results.

On the connected and previous question of negro emancipation, Lord Grey was free from the extreme and inconsiderate zeal of the Emancipationists. In a country where no other labour was available, to any practical extent, the planters found the labour of the negroes snatched from

their hands by the furious philanthropy of the British Parliament. They felt the blow; the industry of the West Indies declined. A supply of labour was absolutely necessary to the planters, but steady work was not absolutely necessary to the negroes: they could live luxuriously, after their style, on the earnings of four days in the week. This state of things supplied one motive for Lord Grey's support to the Free-trade policy of 1846. In the artificial enhancement of the price of sugar in the English markets, he saw a chief cause, under Protection, of the excessive value attached, in the West Indies, to negro labour. Unless the planters possessed the practical monopoly of the British markets, they could not afford to give the negroes (as in Guiana in 1846) two shillings and fourpence for six hours' work, nor could the negroes have supported themselves on the earnings of four, three, and sometimes, even, two days in the week. In the absence of those natural difficulties which stimulate industry, Lord Grey wished to give to the West-Indian negroes the trying atmosphere of competition with the world, both as workers, and as indirect vendors of a marketable commodity. The first part of the competition he supplied by immigration—with a niggard; the second part by refusing to colonial sugar any exceptional advantage in the English markets—a congenial duty inexorably fulfilled. More questionably acting on this principle, he determined to create artificial difficulties for the enervated negroes, by laying on a direct taxation on the lowest kinds of industry, and proportionately relieving luxuries from fiscal dues; in fact, creating, by act of Parliament, that European social condition, which makes state burthens fall more heavily on the humbler than on the higher classes. To these circumstances in this country, Lord Grey attributes the industrial energy of our people, who must work that they may live; and he wished to import such influences into tropical countries as would produce the same result, and thus counteract the baneful fertility of the soil, and the idle luxury of the climate. Stated in this form, not couched in the long words and circumlocution of the Colonial Office, this peculiar policy seems something new, and scarcely consistent with thorough Free-trade. It was a new kind of Protection for the artificial maintenance of industrial difficulties!

Lord Grey's history of Canada is extended; but Canada has been long since freed from the practical interference of Downing-street. She has worked out her own salvation; and that Lord Grey should congratulate himself and colleagues, on a state of things they promoted simply through their compelled non-intervention, is somewhat unwarrantable.

The management of the land sales in Australia and transportation are questions that, though seemingly settled by recent arrangements, to the colonies possess a permanent interest, as touching on two great points of colonial policy. The old colonial system of granting territories to new settlers, was productive of the worst consequences; it left large tracts of land in the possession of men who could not cultivate one-fourth of the property; it prevented the spread of population, the cultivation being confined to the choice bits which a colonist having interest with the Crown would select for a settlement, and by making the allotment of land a matter of official favouritism, it shut out the hardy industrious colonist who had neither time nor inclination to beg favours. The system well-nigh ruined Western Australia. In South Australia a different system—afterwards extended to all Australia—was instituted. The land was sold in suitably-sized lots by public auction, and the upset price being fixed rather high and being uniform for all lands, the prices of lands over all the district were to a great extent reduced to a level. This plan precluded all private jobbing; it tended to distribute settlers, and the comparatively high amount of the upset price (£1 an acre in both colonies) prevented the colony being injured by the disposal to a knowing adventurer of land richly profitable but officially unvalued. The fund arising from the sales remained at the disposal of the home Government, by whom one half was applied to the encouragement of immigration, and the other half to local improvements. After this system had been worked for some time, its beneficial effects were so striking, that all controversy as to its advisability were ended. It is well, however, not to forget that time was when the primary principle of this plan was first set forth by Mr. Edward Gibbon Wakefield. Lord Grey, who, as Lord Howick, made political capital out of Mr. Wakefield's ideas, and who, as Colonial Secretary, was often guided by them, might have had the candour to acknowledge the debt. But some retribution for his want of just quotation arose in his own incapacity to act consistently on a thoroughly satisfactory plan. When the manner of selling the lands, and the general disposal of the land fund had been settled as above, there came the question, "Who should have the management of the sales in future, and the disposal, even to diversion, of the fund?" Lord Grey pertinaciously stickled for the rights of the Crown; and even in this book he argues against giving any power to the local legislatures on those two points. He alleges that mismanagement of the sales and malversation of the money would assuredly follow local power; he foresees the diversion of the fund from immigration to something else; and as a proof points out that the South Australian legislature lately refused—to apply the land fund to immigration? no—to apply the land revenue "to the improvement of a harbour on the coast and the establishment of a railway!" It may be mentioned to the credit of Sir John Pakington, that being only a country gentleman, and not a thoroughbred official, he conceded to the local Legislatures the disposal of the land fund. As to the particular application of the fund, there was not much likelihood that in any case the local management would alter the practice that had been pursued; but it was part of Lord Grey's policy to distrust colonists, and to know what was good for them better than the people themselves.

But his bickerings on the land fund—and his harmless, because frustrated, erotechet of an Australian Congress—were petty errors compared with the course he pursued in the matter of transportation. His own evidence sustains the indictment; he has "written a book," and whoever counts Lord Grey an "enemy" may exceedingly rejoice. The history of the attempt in 1848, to make New South Wales a convict colony, is as follows:—Years back, Wakefield's *Letters from Sydney* disclosed the horrible effects of transportation in establishing a community of male

criminals, whom ignorance, low training, and desolate life, rendered wicked to an unspeakable extent. Sir William Molesworth's committee of 1837 virtually settled the question; convict labour was taken away from Australia, much against the liking of the colonists, who angrily prophesied their own ruin. They were not ruined, and they learned to value the cleansing of the land. In the year 1846, Van Diemen's Land was so terribly demoralised by the immense mass of criminals that had been imported into the colony, that it was deemed advisable to cease the importation for a time; and it was necessary to find some other place for the convicts. The then Colonial Secretary (Mr. Gladstone) wrote to New South Wales, inquiring whether the Legislature would consent to receive "a limited number" of convicts. A Committee of the Legislature considered the request; they had also to consider that for two or three years before, Port Phillip, then a district of New South Wales, had been compelled to receive convicts under the name of exiles, and with the dangerous privilege of freedom; and they had in view the necessity of the British Government and its unmistakable intention to import the convicts in one way or another. They saw the colony plagued with the stray ruffians who wandered from their allotted district into the older settlements of the colony; they saw impending an inevitable inundation of fresh convictism; and with a time-serving prudence they (first stating their dislike to all convictism) consented to receive the coming convicts on certain important conditions: namely, that the convicts should be assigned to individual settlers, that the charges for police, gaols, and administration of justice being almost entirely the result of English convictism, should be borne by the Crown; that the male convicts should be balanced by an equal number of female convicts or female emigrants, that the transportation of the whole number of convicts (male and female) should be equalled by a simultaneous immigration of free emigrants of both sexes, and that not fewer than 5000 male convicts be annually imported into the colony. Other conditions of less importance were attached. The supply of labour which would thus come with the convictism was the inducement with the committee to consent, at all, to the proceeding. The two first conditions Lord Grey declined to accede to; the rest he granted; and the Legislative Council of Sydney after first flatly rejecting all convicts, at length consented, clearly influenced by the fact that with or without their consent "exiles," that is, abandoned convicts, would be sent to Port Phillip, and would spread themselves over the colony. When this consent reached England, Lord Grey sent out the convicts without the free emigrants that had been expressly stipulated for, and agreed to by himself. This gross breach of faith he excuses on two grounds—first, that Parliament not being sitting at the time, he could not obtain a vote for sending out the free emigrants; and, secondly, that the country was in no condition to afford the expense even if he waited for the sanction of Parliament. This is his own apology. He afterwards pleads guilty to "an error in judgment."

Lord Grey's conduct towards the Cape is one to which it is necessary to advert emphatically, for he has no sense of sorrow for the course of official action which, in more cases than one, led to disaffection and disaster in the colony. His remittance of convicts from Bermuda was an impudent outrage on the colony. In relating the facts, Lord Grey is almost pathetic in allusion to the excluded convicts cooped up in the *Neptune* in sight of land. This "sneaking regard" for convicts, that may be drafted here and there, and drilled into order, in preference to colonists continually complaining, is an official idiosyncrasy. The people at the Cape were hard-hearted in two ways: they refused to aid the Government in a "serious difficulty" by receiving "just this one" shipload of convicts; and they were cruel enough "to visit those measures on the heads of those unfortunate men." A story, so often quoted that it should be obsolete, tells, that a lady guilty of a youthful indiscretion, exonerated the fault, the child was "such a little one;" and Lord Grey, caught in the fact of sending convicts to the Cape, defends himself on the ground that they were Irish, and had committed crimes for political reasons. But what did the Cape colonists know of that? Where had they the information that those men were not the worst from our jails? Or, if they could penetrate the usual secrecy of criminal administration, had they any guarantee that that first cargo might not have been made into a most pernicious precedent? On another Cape topic Lord Grey is remarkably silent. "Insurrections" and permanent "unfriendly feelings" of the Boers are passed over without one word of explanation. The fact that these thrifty, hard-working, men have been entirely alienated from British rule is, indeed, such a damnable fact, that an English official escapes best by evading the point. Official arrogance, and a fussy philanthropy averse to the treatment of the native herds, were the first causes of the dislike of the Dutch farmers to the English rule. They emigrated into the unsettled district; a district where the British flag was never planted, and where, by law, it could not be planted. Here they led a hard but improving life, surrounded by the native tribes. Sir Harry Smith, released from more proper duties by the close of the Kafir war of '47, visited the district, to "inspect" it; and without authority from England, and against the original intention of a restricted territory at the Cape, he proclaimed the Queen's rule in the Orange River Sovereignty. In five months afterwards the Boers revolted: they were crushed; but a smouldering insurrection always remained up to a recent period, when the practical independence of the emigrant-farmers was conceded as a matter of necessity.

The colonial policy of Lord Grey was a mixture of Imperial arrogance and occasional expediency. If a contumacious colony were weak, it was crushed; if a resisting people were strong, the Colonial Office yielded with a bad grace. Civil lists have been carried with a high hand in Guiana, but Clergy Reserves were quickly conceded* in Canada. Van Diemen's Land was long subjected to the convict nuisance, but the Cape colonists had but to make a show of fight, and the Secretary gave way. A policy with such varieties cannot be traced to a principle. Its practice was as contradictory as Lord Grey's career, and its tone as varied as his temper.

* A bill, placing the Reserves at the disposal of the local legislature, would have been introduced by Lord Grey, had not the dissolution of the Russell Administration prevented it.

VOLUMES OF VERSE.

The Patriot: a Poem. By J. W. King, author of "The Emigrant," &c. John Chapman. Poems, Narratives and Lytical. By Edwin Arnold, of University College, Oxford.

A Broken Echo: a Poem.

Musings of a Spirit: a Poem. By George Marsland, author of "Regeneration."

Olds and Ends. By A. E. Marshall.

Forest and Fireside Hours: Poems. By Westby Gibson. Second Edition. Aylott & Co.

STERN as we are in refusing the great name of Poet to men who have no higher claim than a poetical capacity, it has never been our wont to ridicule or speak harshly of the numerous aspirants who, knowing they have "the accomplishment of verse," believe they have also the vision and the faculty divine. To write even bad poetry is not, in our eyes, a reprehensible action. It betokens, at least, a love of what is elegant, and a higher ambition than that which prompts many more successful men. We should prefer, indeed, not to see what is written, for the most part; we think publication an imprudence, but, after all, it is no more. There are amateur singers whom we should earnestly counsel not to sing in public, whom nevertheless we listen to with a mild and mitigated pleasure in a drawing-room; and, in like manner, there are verse writers whose verses form an elegant leisure for themselves, fill albums for their friends, and when not obtrusively circulated in manuscript, serve their small purpose among social amusements; but Publication—that Marriage with the Muse—as it has been called, is, like other marriages, a serious affair, and not to be undertaken on the strength of a mere flirtation.

As critics we do not often notice these imprudent publications; but when we do, it is never with ridicule. There are things enough to occupy us without our literally wasting time over the imprudences of young gentlemen and ladies, who will all learn through the unmistakable criticism of neglect and "unsold copies," that, for the present, at least, the Laurel is not planted which is to adorn their brows. Of the half-dozen volumes placed at the head of this article we are led to say a few brief words, not of criticism so much as of grave and friendly counsel. To all, indeed, we would say one simple thing:—Do not publish verse again. Write it—with all the gusto and sincerity of real love; but do not waste money, time, patience, and divine hope in trying to catch the ear of a public only attentive to voices of real poets. You are none of you voices—all of you are but echoes. Sing, if moved to sing, but not in public.

Mr. King, in the introduction to his energetic poem, *The Patriot*, emphatically, and truly as emphatically, denies that this is not a poetry-loving age, and refers, in proof, to the fact that not only are the works of great poets more re-published, bought, and read, than ever they were before, but also that never was there "in any period in the history of literature so much trash in the distorted semblance of poetry, published, purchased, perused, and paraded by the press, as at this moment. Every penny periodical teems with maudlin verse-mummery." Of course this finds readers, or the periodicals would not print it. And if any one doubts whether there is a public for real poetry, let him ask the publisher of Tennyson or of the new poet, Alexander Smith. It is because there is such a public that there is no public for mediocrities. People will read a mediocre poem in a periodical; they will not read a volume of such.

Mr. King, who is one of the proud "Plebeian Poets," we advise to turn his attention to prose; he has poetical sympathies, but not the poetical faculty. So, also, must we speak of Mr. George Marsland, who, however, will meet us half-way, since he declares,—

"The poet preaches of the coming flood,
And highest verse is e'er the sternest prose,—
The turner upside down of worldly things."

A. E. Marshall goes even farther, and lays the burden upon language itself, which he (or she) declares incompetent to the task.

"But thought must struggle through the iron fetter
Of speech, which scantily its sense conveys,
Else, mighty Snowdon, I would hymn thee better
Than in this feeble tribute to thy praise."

If the great difficulty of Art is thus to be given up, why not be resigned, and cease to publish?

The best of these volumes is Mr. Edwin Arnold's; his verses might have filled a not disregarded corner in a magazine or paper, for they have a certain elegant facility not without its charm; but they are not poems; they are not utterances of the actual emotions, crowding upon him and demanding expression, nor are they the musical expression of images actually present to his mind; they are echoes, in a word; and of echoes we have more than enough.

The Arts.

THE OPERA.

"It is better to begin with a little aversion," says Mrs. Slipsop, and I am not sure that Mr. Gye played a bad card when he began the season so badly, for the enthusiasm and delight created by *Guillaume Tell* was considerably intensified by coming after the coldness of *Masaniello* and *Il Barbiere*. Be that as it may, certain it is that on Tuesday evening I felt my old sensations mingling with newer raptures—my nerves trembled beneath the witchery of music as in days of old they did when "going to the opera" was an event, not a duty! If the English public went to the opera for the opera, we should have *William Tell* a hundred nights in succession; as it is, let us hope to have it often, say at least as often as the *Huguenots*, so immeasurably inferior to it! What grandeur there is throughout! What abounding life, and grace, and dramatic movement! It is said that Sophocles wrote the *Antigone* at ninety. I wont answer for the fact, but at any rate his last was also his greatest work; and so one may say of Rossini's *Tell*. How Costa loves the music! how he caresses it, and searches into its secret lovelinesses, making his orchestra sensible of the endless wealth of beauty and effect!

And what shall I say of Tamberlik, whose battle I fought when critics

were cold, and noodles could see nothing in him but one high note, Tamberlik whom we have seen steadily advancing night by night in public favour, each new part a new triumph, till this, his last creation, has placed him beyond any tenor of our time. Since Rubini was in his prime I have heard no such singing, no such marvellous combination of voice, method, and expression, no such manly tenderness, flashing energy, and large utterance. The C sharp from his chest, in *suivez moi*, I have heard before, and even heard him deliver it with more sustained splendour, though, to say the truth, on Tuesday, it went through me—it was like sudden lightning flashing in your face, as you stand at the window glorying in the storm; but high notes, be they never so high, do not constitute a singer; and it was the *largo* and intensity of his *Aiolo héréditaire* which truly showed what a great singer Tamberlik is. It was throughout a triumphant and intoxicating performance; the passionate sobs of climbing agony in that famous trio are still ringing in my ears, and I begin to think existence not wholly contemptible when one can get occasionally such a sensation as that! I was about to be misanthropical, and write horribly gloomy feuilletons for your melancholy pleasure; but Tamberlik has once more proved that

One touch of singing makes the whole world kin.

And just as entosymosy was exhilarating, lo! the one incomparable *Norma*, the Giulia Grisi of my constant heart, walks in superb beauty on the stage, saying, with her queenly air,

Here is my throne; bid kings come bow to it!

And how her worshippers prostrated themselves! Decidedly the opera wears another, and a *summerer* aspect now. *William Tell* as a novelty, and Giulia Grisi as an ever welcome charm! With *William Tell* two nights a week and *Norma* the third, a season might be got through.

VIVIAN.

FRENCH PLAYS.

MAY I be permitted to recommend all whom it concerns to take the earliest opportunity of seeing Madlle. Page and Lafont in the *Chevalier de St. Georges*? The play itself, even if considered only as a Frenchified Uncle-Tomitude, with *couplets* instead of texts, is a welcome stimulant to the rather flimsy repertoire that has prevailed since Easter at the St. James's, and the acting of Madlle. Page, as the Countess, and of Lafont as the mulatto Chevalier, is a triumph of the most refined and accomplished art. Lafont, always delightfully true, natural, and elegant, betrayed in the bursts of passion which belong rather to drama than to the high comedy in which he usually walks, a feeling and a power for which few who had seen Frédéric Lemaître would have given the lighter artist credit (it seemed like a Rembrandt reproduced in water-colours). As to Madlle. Page, exquisitely dressed as ever, with her killing eyes, her bewitching undulations of attitude, and nightingale tones, she takes all hearts captive by the melodiously finished simplicity of her acting, so delicate in the playing lights and tender shadows of its archness, its gaiety, and its pathos. The Italians have the word which exactly expresses the peculiar charm of Madlle. Page, and it is a word I have more than once applied to the art of Madlle. Closs. It is *morbidezza*, that softest delicacy which is the very opposite of harshness and angularity, and in which the varying expressions melt and mingle with no abrupt transition, and no jarring contrast. But I can only indicate here what time and space fail me more fully to explain.

E. P.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

THE display in Suffolk-street this year is remarkable as an exposition of styles. The leading painters are all fairly represented—except Anthony. He is away—withdrawn from the Society—and now at work, for the exhibition next month, on a group of botanical portraiture, which contains the collected marvels he has scattered over so many fields, and which, in the reality of its luxuriant growth, promises to act on the jaded sense of sceptical habitués, like "the enchanted herbs that did renew old Æon." The loss to the society, meanwhile, is not a light matter. Seldom do we find so much truthfulness with such striking peculiarity, as in Anthony's later compositions. Studies of effect are too often meant for the initiated—a small section of the public, or even of genuine lovers of pictures. Thus, a painter will come to think that no picture of his can be complete without some incident, which any un-informed observer would deem foreign. The "artistic necessity" with such painters—and they are numerous—does not include what is probable or suggestive, but is a necessity begot in the studio. The massings of lights and shadows in Rembrandt are peculiar to that master, but they are generally true nevertheless. Other natural effects, which would all strike us as true wherever we might find them, distinguish other great names. But with the mannerisms of merely clever men it is not thus. See how Mr. Zeitter bestows on each of his compositions a sharp twitch of green, which will "do" for a woman's head-dress, or a flag, or a lettuce, or a saddle-cloth, as may happen from its place in the picture. It is necessary for Mr. Zeitter's effect that that particular bit of bright green should appear in that particular place. Never mind whether it be necessary or not that the woman should be so ornamented! or that a savoy should spring from the snow-drift; or that the rein-deer should have a thing on his back like a green kettle-holder. There is the green; we wanted the green, thought Mr. Zeitter, and—there it is. How it is, we need not trouble ourselves to consider. Woolmer, again, must have a background the colour of orange chips, beginning at the left like a curtain, and ending on the right as a wall. And he wants a bit of black, to correspond with Mr. Zeitter's bit of green; only it is fair to say, that the black always takes some intelligible form—a mask, or velvet hood, or tiny lap-dog—not more in place it may be, than Mr. Zeitter's savoy. Hurlstone's pictures would afford many flagrant instances. But he has done well this year—most admirably in his great work, the "First appearance of Columbus in Spain." His name, therefore, shall lead us at once to enumerate the chief pictures, beginning with his own, just mentioned. Columbus, at the door of the Franciscan convent of La Rabida, meets the first man of understanding and influence who will listen to his plans of discovery.

It is the Prior himself, who takes compassion on the youthful son of Columbus, and is here represented holding a cup of water to the boy's parched lips. The design is simple, grand, and perfectly original; though the subject has been painted before, and is not capable of very different readings. Wehnert has treated the story with as much feeling, but his picture is not recalled by the sight of Hurlstone's. In the former work, Columbus, gaunt, almost savage with fasting and fatigue, sits on a bench, but stares straight onward, as if his purpose were again upon the road. His boy sleeps on his knee; the long yellow hair straggling over the huge limbs (Wehnert is the painter) of Columbus. The Prior stands erect, and seems to invite the travellers to enter the convent-gate. We recall this group for the sake of contrasting two compositions, both adhering to the main fact represented, but resembling each other in nothing else. In Hurlstone's picture the head of Columbus, who stands in the centre, nobly crowns the group. The face, turned a little sideways as the eyes rest on the boy, is expressive of manly tenderness and gratitude. The grave composure is just the reverse of what we notice in Wehnert—a wild and sickly glare. There is less difference in the case of the Prior. In both designs this figure has a high and austere bearing, the beneficent character being most marked by Hurlstone. His other pictures, chiefly studies of Italian peasantry, are more finished than usual, and more agreeable. It is surprising he should paint no better portraits. They are certainly vile.

Woolmer's picture of the disrobing beauty with the "anxious breast," is the prettiest of all his pretty trifles. It is sentiment in sugar. There are several good specimens of his light, graceful handiwork, all the better for a little extra care in the flesh painting, which is now getting to be wonderfully round and dimpled. There is more in the faces, too. The face of "Pining Care in rich brocade," &c., which we have just noticed, is most delicately touched. So is the face in the "White Rose," the next in merit, we think, to "Pining Care." Pretty little Pining Care, with her head nestling down so charmingly on one smooth shoulder, and her arms crossed over the diamonds (which don't glitter) on her "anxious breast!" With the rich brocade slipping down from the white satin stays, and nicely indicating the perfection of her hips! Woolmer has certainly caught the spirit of the Poses Plastiques.

Hill, more natural, but not so skilful as Woolmer, improves considerably. "May Day," his principal work, shows a party of graceful children, grouped under a blossoming hawthorn bough, one being raised by the others, to gather the "May." To look at one of Noble's pictures after this is like returning from a country ramble to go to the Casino. Yet Noble might paint charming pictures, if he would believe in the life that condescends to put on silks and feathers. There is some obscurity in his "Flowers of the Forest," which represents a bevy of overdressed beauties, lying about a lawn, and serenely indifferent to the critical gaze of two grinning bumpkins, across the hedge-row. Perhaps Noble, conscious of a failing towards the decorations and effects of the foot-lights, intends a pleasant kind of self-banter, in this tableau of artificial grace astonishing the natives. It is fair to add, that all the brilliancy does not here belong to the satin. Noble has flung a lustre over the flesh which we have never before remarked in his pictures; the play of light on the neck and shoulder of one of the girls fairly takes one by surprise. Wageman paints Henry the Fourth soliloquizing on sleep; and Cowie—not so bold an illustrator—strives to embody a descriptive passage instead of a moral reflection. The "Flight of Desdemona with Othello" is told by Mr. Cowie with considerable skill, after the manner of Hook, in his Venetian scenes. Mr. Wageman's picture—it is needless to dwell on the absurdity of a didactic situation—is a more careful and independent study, finished to a level of hardness, without distinction of textures. Henry is discovered starting from his couch, and his restless condition is told with a painful truth, in the face only; the attitude is one of ranting common-place; it looks like Methodism delivering an "appropriate remark." Studies of heads, in which you recognise the old models, are as plentiful as ever. Among the painters in this branch we still find Chester Earles, who bade once for notice, if not fame, but who stopped growing some years ago. Gale, thoughtful and refined as

he always is, will not get beyond the production of solitary faces. His profile study has the same graceful and pensive dignity which marks his portraits at the British Institution. One more head remains for notice, the merit being higher than might be expected from the title. "Uncle Tom reading his Bible" is a fine type of the Nigger development, and would pass very well for a Toussaint L'Ouverture. The artist is Mr. H. C. Whaithe.

Decidedly the first of the landscape painters is Boddington. No finer pictures ever left his easel than those three landscapes in the Great Room. The clear shallows are as delightfully surprising as if he had not a hundred times shown us how fresh water, running over a mossy bed, looks in the sunshine. There is a noble landscape by Allen, interesting as one of his latest works. It is finished in his best style, and resembles Lee in the harmony of distant effects. There are shady lanes with the glow of autumn penetrating far into their cool depths, reminding some of thirsty holidays, and others of Gainsborough; while all agree that Shayer paints those pleasant scenes with true feeling, and is very happy in his groups of countrymen, and teams of waggon-horses, and herds of lazy cattle, and occasional pedlars. There are sheep, by Wainwright, of every breed, grazing on every description of open country. Tennant is bright and airy as ever, and his varieties of heath seem inexhaustible. Clint, not less gay, but a trifle harder, gets mistaken for Tennant now and then by the oldest judges. West gives us his old Norwegian torrent scenes, all granite and foam, with dark pine tops and splintered trunks shooting up here and there in the midst. He has also "Recollections of the Devonshire Coast, near Lynmouth," and thereby tempts us to hope he will forget those raw, chilly, comfortless evenings in Norway.

The Water Colour Room contains a few good drawings. Zeiter, indeed, shows to greater advantage here than in the principal gallery, his sketches being better pictures than any he has yet painted. Laurence has two of his fine crayon heads, both lady portraits. The miniatures are paltry, with one or two exceptions. S. R. Lock sends one which is equal to Ross in finish, if in nothing else, and which reminds us of the pretty face with its large round wondering eyes, so often drawn by Doyle. There are two enamel copies by Essex: one from the Chandos picture of Shakespeare; the other from Vandyke's Gevartius, in the National Gallery.

THE TWO LANDS OF GOLD.

If a pilot be wanted at all for a two hours' run under painted canvas, it is better he should be a jolly fellow, who can tell a good story, sing a good song, and play the fiddle, than a solemn prig who can only talk from the log (a copy of which any one may buy for sixpence). With Mr. Lee Carter a voyage becomes quite a subjective affair. He takes us first to San Francisco and then to the Australian diggings, but we are ready at any time to turn from the scene before us and listen to a song about it. We wish, however, he did not strain so much at the comic business. It grows painful. An unfavourable comparison with Albert Smith is challenged; his manner, tone, the very tunes of his songs, are copied; and Mr. Lee Carter, with all his tact and cleverness, has not the face of Albert. Will it be believed that he starts precisely in the same way—by railway; imitates the voices of guards and passengers, rings a bell, whistles, and repeats the various exciting incidents we experienced on leaving London-bridge for Chamouni. The musical version of "News from London"—a *reficimento* of *Galvani's Messenger*—is not a remarkable specimen of humour. We have now said our worst of Mr. Lee Carter, to whom we are certainly indebted for considerable amusement. His scenery is nicely painted by a young artist, Mr. Stanfield James, and sometimes the musical performance was stopped by applause at a good pictorial effect. The stage is fitted up like an emigrant's tent, with stove, crocks, kettles, gold-washing apparatus, revolvers, a cockatoo in a hoop, and, in short, all proper "fixings;" while the space in front is decked with evergreens, precisely as at Mont Blanc. Mr. Harry Lee Carter is not quite new to the public, we believe, but this is the first occasion of our meeting him, and we hope to "improve the acquaintance."

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, April 22, 1853.
CONSOLS leave off 100½. The markets during the past week have been absolutely stagnant, hardly any business doing, and every transaction betokening a disposition in prices to dwindle and fall lower. The confused notions prevalent with regard to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's financial propositions, and the uncertainty as to whether Ministers will be able to carry their measure through the House of Commons, have been the combined causes to cast such a gloom over the markets. Foreign shares have been this week tolerably steady, and prices have been sustained. In the Land Companies shares the depression has been sensibly apparent. Australian Agricultural are as low as 79 to 81, and their offshoot, West Rivers, only 4½ to 1 premium per share. Taking into consideration that these latter shares have been dealt in as high as 12 to 14 premium since Christmas, the fall has been very great, but not altogether without reason. Many of the speculators in this description of stock must now see that the delusion of giving 120 per cent. for very doubtful gold-producing territories, and no actual income existing, all the gains "looming very far in the distance," is in the end a barren and unprofitable investment. Our own mining market has been dull. Gold mines the same. The West India mail brings most wonderful accounts of the richness of the copper ore in Jamaica, and some of the companies that have been projected to work the mines in that part of the world command heavy premiums in their shares. There is a mine announced in the west of England, not far from North Molton, which promises gold at the rate of one ounce per ton of earth raised. If true, one need not weather the Cape to run the gauntlet at the diggings of Ballarat; but people are incredulous as to auriferous wealth in our own island.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday evening, April 22, 1853.
The supplies of Wheat for London this week, has been moderate, but a considerable number of vessels have arrived off the coast from the Mediterranean and Black Seas. This and an

exceedingly limited demand have rendered the trade quite inanimate, and to force sales lower prices must be taken. The supply of Barley and Oats is short, and prices are firmly maintained. Beans and Peas no cheaper.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

	Satur.	Mon.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	226	226½	226	227	227	227½
3 per Cent. Red.	100	100	99½	99½	99½	99½
3 per Cent. Con. Ans.	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
Consols for Account	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
3½ per Cent. An.	103½	103½	103½	103½	103½	103½
New 5 per Cents.	6	6 1-16	6	6	6	6
Long Ans., 1860	262	261½	262	262	262½	262½
India Stock	43	38	42	40
Ditto Bonds, £1000	38	38	42	40
Ditto, under £1000	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	4 p	4 p
Ex. Bills, £1000	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p
Ditto, £500	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p
Ditto, Small	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p	5 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY EVENING.)

Austrian Bds. 5 p. Cts.	99½	Sardinian Bonds	97½
Brazilian New 4½ p. Cts.	100½	Spanish 3 p. Cts.	48
Buenos Ayres Bonds	66	Spanish 3 p. Cts. New Def.	23½
Greek, ex over-due Coup.	10	Spanish Com. Certif. of Coupon not funded	6½
Mexican 3 per Cts. Acct.	27½	Swedish Loan	1½ dis.
Mexican 3 per Ct. Acct.	27½	Dutch 2½ per Cents.	66
April 28	27½	Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	97½
Peruvian Bonds 4½ p. Cts.	88½		
Peruvian 3 per Cent. Def.	67½		

ON SUNDAY MORNING, 24th APRIL, at Eleven o'clock, a LECTURE will be delivered at the Oxford Rooms, 36, Castle Street, Oxford Street, on GOD'S WORKS AND GOD'S WORKSHOP. By WILLIAM MAC-CALL, Author of the "Education of Taste."

French Plays.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

On Monday, will be repeated, for the last time, the celebrated Play of LE CHEVALIER DE ST. GEORGES, in which M. Lafont and Madlle. Page will perform.

On Wednesday next, for the BENEFIT of Madlle. PAGE, and last night but two of her engagement. On which occasion she will have the honour of appearing in LES EXTREMES SE TOUCHENT—Le Chevalier Julien, M. Lafont; La Comtesse Rosine, Madlle. Page. And in addition will be produced (for the first time in this country) LES FEES DE PARIS—Juliette, Madlle. Page; Laure, Madlle. Emma Fleury; Hortense, Madlle. St. Georges.

Boxes and Stalls may be obtained at the Residence of Madlle. Page, 23, King Street, St. James's; at the Box Office; and at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond Street.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC. EVERY EVENING, at Eight o'clock, except Saturday. Stalls, 3s. (which can be secured at the Box-office every day from Eleven to Four); area, 2s.; gallery 1s.

A Morning Performance every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.

A view of the celebrated Mer de Glace, from Moutanvers, has been added to the Illustrations.

Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly.

AN EXHIBITION OF PHOTOGRAPHIC PICTURES by the best English and Continental Artists will be opened at the PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION, 168, New Bond Street, on Thursday, April 28. The Collection will include a great variety of new and important Pictures recently taken by eminent Photographers, and some of the best specimens from the late Exhibition at the Society of Arts.

Admission, Sixpence.

"The saving of from 30 to 50 per cent. on each suit of clothes, is a feature which the practical genius of Englishmen will not fail to appreciate."

THE above quotation is taken from a Work lately published, on "The Various Systems, &c., of the Woollen-Cloth Trade." The immediate reference of this extract is to the New System recently introduced at the LONDON CLOTH ESTABLISHMENT by

EDMUND DUDDEN AND CO.

And in which the Writer shows that the Customers of Messrs. Dudden and Co. save from 30 to 50 per cent. on their purchases by adopting the New System. The fine STOCK of the LONDON CLOTH ESTABLISHMENT is known as one of the best in the Metropolis, from which any Lengths, even the shortest, are

SOLD AT THE WHOLESALE PRICE.

But, as an auxiliary to the Cloth Trade, Cutters of superior talent are engaged; and Purchasers of Cloth, &c., may, if they wish, have it made up on the Premises, at the charge of

THE WORKMEN'S WAGES,

Messrs. Dudden and Co. guaranteeing, not only the Quality of the Cloth, but also the Fit and Workmanship of every Garment.

LONDON CLOTH ESTABLISHMENT, 16, COVENTRY STREET.

PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NEW ARRANGEMENTS, AND REDUCED FARES AND FREIGHTS.

DEPARTURES OUTWARDS.

INDIA and CHINA, via EGYPT. — For Aden, Ceylon, Madras, Calcutta, Penang, Singapore, and Hong Kong on the 4th and 20th of every month from Southampton, and on the 10th and 26th from Marseilles.

AUSTRALIA, via SINGAPORE. — For Adelaide, Port Phillip, and Sydney (touching at Batavia), on the 4th of May and 4th of every alternate month thereafter from Southampton, and on the 10th of May and 10th of every alternate month thereafter from Marseilles.

MALTA and EGYPT. — On the 4th and 20th of every month from Southampton, and the 10th and 26th from Marseilles.

MALTA and CONSTANTINOPLE. — On the 27th of every month from Southampton.

SPAIN and PORTUGAL. — For Vigo, Oporto, Lisbon, Cadiz, and Gibraltar, from Southampton, on the 7th, 17th, and 27th of every month.

CALCUTTA and CHINA. — Vessels of the Company ply occasionally (generally once a month) between Calcutta, Penang, Singapore, Hong Kong, and Shanghai.

N.B.—The rates of passage money and freight on the India and China lines have been considerably reduced, and may be had upon application at the Company's Offices, 122, Leadenhall Street, London, and Oriental Place, Southampton.

TO EMIGRANTS.

THE following GUTTA PERCHA ARTICLES will be found of great value to Emigrants, especially such as are proceeding to the

GOLD DIGGINGS.

GUTTA PERCHA LINING FOR BOXES.

BUCKETS.	LIFE BOATS.	WASHING BOWLS.
DRAINING TUBS.	FLASKS.	SYPHONS.

GUTTA PERCHA TUBING.

SECTIONS FOR PUMPS.	CARBOYS FOR GUNPOWDER.
JETS.	MINERS' CAPS.

SOLES FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

To keep the FEET DRY is of the utmost importance to the Emigrant. This may be secured by the use of Gutta Percha Soles, which are perfectly Waterproof, Cheaper and more Durable than Leather. They can be put on with ease by any one. This cannot be too extensively known amongst Australian Emigrants, as it is now difficult to find a Shoemaker in that country.

GOLD WASHING VESSELS OF EVERY VARIETY OF SHAPE MAY BE HAD TO ORDER.

Directions to Emigrants for Lining Boxes with Gutta Percha Soles, (so as to preserve the contents from injury by sea water), also for putting on Soles of Boots and Shoes, &c., may be had GRATIS on application to any of the Gutta Percha Company's Dealers.

N.B.—The Company's Illustrated Circulars, with Instructions for Lining Tubes, Lining Cisterns and Tanks, and for securely attaching Gutta Percha Soles, will be forwarded (post free) on receipt of four postage stamps.

THE GUTTA PERCHA COMPANY, PATENTEES,
15, WHARF ROAD, CITY ROAD, LONDON.

AWARDED A PRIZE MEDAL UNDER CLASS XIX.
TO THE CARPET TRADE. — ROYAL VICTORIA FELT CARPETING. — THE PATENT WOOLLEN CLOTH COMPANY beg to inform the Trade that their NEW PATENT CARPETS and TABLE COVERS for the present season are now out, and will be found far superior to any they have hitherto produced, both in style and variety. The public can be supplied at all respectable Carpet-houses in London and the country. The public deem it necessary to caution the public against parties who are selling an inferior description of goods as Felted Carpets, which will not bear comparison with their manufacture, either in style or durability; and that the genuineness of the goods can always be tested by the reverse of the piece, "Royal Victoria Carpeting, London," with the Royal arms in the centre.
The Company's Manufactories are at Elmwood Mills, Leeds; and Borough Road, London. Wholesale Warehouses at 8, LOVE LANE, WOOD STREET, CHEAPSIDE.

GAS CHANDELIERS AND BRACKETS.

The increased and increasing use of gas in private houses has induced WILLIAM S. BURTON to collect from the various manufacturers all that is new and choice in Brackets, Pendants, and Chandeliers, adapted to offices, passages, and dwelling-rooms, as well as to have some designed expressly for him; these are now ON SHOW in one of his TEN LARGE ROOMS, and present, for novelty, variety, and purity of taste, an unequalled assortment. They are marked in plain figures, at prices proportionate with those which have tended to make his Ironmongery Establishment the largest and most remarkable in the kingdom—viz., from 12s. 6d. (two light) to Sixteen Guineas.

WILLIAM S. BURTON HAS TEN LARGE SHOW ROOMS (all communicating), exclusive of the shop, devoted to the show of GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated, and Japanned Wares, Iron and Brass Bedsteads), so arranged and classified that purchasers may easily and at once make their selections.

Catalogues, with Engravings, sent (per post) free. The money returned for every article not approved of.

39, OXFORD-STREET (corner of Newman-street): Nos. 1 and 3, NEWMAN-STREET; and 4 and 5, PERRY'S-PLACE.

MERCH'S DESKS, WORK-BOXES, and

TEA CHESTS, 4, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON, combine all that is superb and cheap, with the most approved patterns, invented by himself, manufactured on his own premises, where may be seen some of the richest specimens in the world of Papier Maché Goods, Dressing Cases, Bagatelle Tables, Ivory Chessmen and Chessboards, rich Card Cases, Tablets, and in fact everything for the Work Table and Dressing Toilet, displayed in a style of elegance not surpassed by any in this kingdom. MERCH is the sole and original inventor of the Castelled Tooth Brushes, Magic Shrop and Paste, the peculiar Steel Razor, the Cushioned Bagatelle Tables, and various improvements in Portable Desks and Dressing Cases combined.

SHIRTS.—FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS

are not sold by any hosiers or drapers, and can therefore be obtained only at 38, POULTRY. Gentlemen in the country or abroad, ordering through their agents, are requested to observe on the interior of the collar-band the stamp—

"FORD'S EUREKA SHIRTS, 38, POULTRY" without which none are genuine. They are made in two qualities—First quality, 40s. the half-dozen; second quality, 30s. the half-dozen. Gentlemen who are desirous of purchasing Shirts in the very best manner in which they can be made, are solicited to inspect these, the most unique and only perfect fitting Shirts. List of prices and instructions for measurement, post free, and patterns of the new coloured shirtings free on receipt of six stamps.

RICHARD FORD, 38, POULTRY, LONDON.

TEA.—IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Government having announced, by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, their intention to reduce the duty upon Tea from 2s. 2½d. per lb. to 1s. 10d., with a further progressive reduction until it descends to ONE SHILLING ONLY—

We have much pleasure to inform our friends and the public that the advantages arising from these proposed reductions will, immediately they come into operation, be given to our customers, and the prices of the whole of our Teas be regulated accordingly.

Should Parliament confirm the proposition of the Minister, which is confidently anticipated, the New Duties will probably be received at the Custom House on Tuesday next, the 28th April.

SIDNEY, WELLS, & CO., Tea Merchants and Dealers,
No. 8, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON.
April 20th, 1853.

SUPERIOR TO COFFEE, BUT LOWER IN PRICE.

FRENCH CHOCOLATE, 1s. per pound, or in packets, 6d., 3d., and 1d. each, a preparation from the choicest Cocos of the English markets, and manufactured by the most approved French method. Coffee is far inferior in nutritive qualities to Cocos. And Chocolate, or properly prepared Cocos, is now universally recommended by the Medical Profession, as more conducive to health than any other vegetable substance which enters into the human dietary. The superiority of the above One Shilling French Chocolate, over raw and unprepared Cocos, may be judged of by the perfection attained in its manufacture, owing to which it may be used either as food or beverage.

PARIS CHOCOLATE COMPANY, distinguished by the Patronage of her Majesty the Queen, and the unanimous award of both "Council" and "Prize" Medals at the Great Exhibition of 1851. Manufacturers of Breakfast Chocolate, Bonbons, and French Syrups.

Sold Wholesale and Retail by the principal Grocers, Confectioners, and Druggists in the kingdom. Chocolate Mills, Isleworth; Wholesale Depot, 35, Pudding-Lane, City; West-End Agent, Mr. JOHN HATFIELD, 221, Regent-Street.

BANKS OF DEPOSIT AND SAVINGS BANKS.

INVESTMENT OF CAPITAL AND SAVINGS.

NATIONAL ASSURANCE and INVESTMENT ASSOCIATION,

7, ST. MARTIN'S PLACE, TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON, AND 50, PALL MALL, MANCHESTER.
Established in 1844.

TRUSTEES.

Lieut.-Col. the Right Honourable Lord George Paget, M.P.
Rev. Joseph Prendergast, D.D., (Cantab.) Lewisham.
George Stone, Esq., Banker, Lombard Street.
Matthew Hutton Chaytor, Esq., Reigate.

The Investment of Money with this Association secures equal advantages to the Savings of the Provident and the Capital of the Affluent, and affords to both the means of realising the highest rate of Interest yielded by first-class securities, in which alone the Funds are employed.

The constant demand for advances upon securities of that peculiar class, which are offered almost exclusively to Life Assurance Companies, such as Reversions, Life Interests, &c., enables the Board of Management to employ Capital on more advantageous terms and at higher rates of Interest than could otherwise, with equal safety, be obtained.

The present rate of Interest is *five per cent. per annum*, and this rate will continue to be so long as the Assurance department finds the same safe and profitable employment for money.

Interest payable half-yearly in January and July.

Money intended for Investment is received daily between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock, at the Offices of the Association.

Immediate Annuities granted, and the business of Life Assurance in all its branches, transacted, on highly advantageous terms. Rates, Prospectuses, and Forms of Proposal, with every requisite information, may be obtained on application at the offices of the Association, or to the respective Agents throughout the United Kingdom.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

Applications for Agencies may be made to the Managing Director.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

Established 1824.

Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.

ADVANTAGES.

EXTENSION OF LIMITS OF RESIDENCE.—The Assured can reside in any part of Europe, the Holy Land, Egypt, Madeira, the Cape, Australia, New Zealand, and in most parts of North and South America, without extra charge.

MUTUAL SYSTEM WITHOUT THE RISK OF PARTNERSHIP.

The small share of Profit divisible in future among the Shareholders being now provided for, the Assured will hereafter derive all the benefits obtainable from a Mutual Office, with, at the same time, complete freedom from liability—thus combining, in the same office, all the advantages of both systems.

The Assurance Fund already invested amounts to £260,000, and the Income exceeds £130,000 per annum.

CREDIT SYSTEM.—On Policies for the whole of Life, one half of the Annual Premiums for the first five years may remain on credit, and may either continue as a debt on the Policy, or may be paid off at any time.

LOANS.—Loans are advanced on Policies which have been in existence five years and upwards, to the extent of nine-tenths of their value.

BONUSES.—FIVE Bonuses have been declared; at the last in January, 1852, the sum of £131,125 was added to the Policies, producing a Bonus varying with the different ages, from 24 to 55 per cent. on the Premiums paid during the five years, or from £5 to £12 10s. per cent. on the sum assured.

PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.—Policies participate in the profits in proportion to the number and amount of the Premiums paid between every division, so that if only one year's Premium be received prior to the Books being closed for any division, the Policy on which it was paid will obtain its due share. The books close for the next Division on 30th June, 1856, therefore those who effect Policies before the 30th June next, will be entitled to one year's additional share of Profits over later assurers.

APPLICATION OF BONUSES.—The next and future Bonuses may be either received in Cash, or applied at the option of the Assured in any other way.

NON-PARTICIPATION IN PROFITS.—Assurances may be effected for a Fixed Sum at considerably reduced rates, and the Premiums for term Policies are lower than at most other Safe Offices.

PROMPT SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS.—Claims paid thirty days after proof of death, and all Policies are *indisputable* except in case of fraud.

INVALID LIVES may be assured at rates proportioned to the increased risk.

POLICIES are granted on the lives of persons in any station, and of every age, and for any sum on one life from £50 to £10,000.

PREMIUMS may be paid yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly, but if a payment be omitted from any cause, the Policy can be revived within fourteen Months.

The Accounts and Balance Sheets are at all times open to the inspection of the Assured, or of persons desirous to assure.

Tables of Rates and forms of Proposal, can be obtained of any of the Society's Agents, or of

GEO. H. PINCKARD, Resident Secretary.

99, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, London.

HOUSEHOLDERS' LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

DISTINCTIVE AND PECULIAR FEATURES.

1. Every Policy is absolutely indisputable, the state of health, age, and interest, being admitted on the Policy.

2. Policies paid to the Holder within Fourteen Days after Proof of Death.

3. No charge for Policy Stamp.

4. The Savings' Bank Assurance—the Company granting an Assurance on the life of the Depositor for every sum deposited, with liberty to withdraw the deposit at fourteen days' notice.

5. Loans on the security, or for the purchase, or erection, of property, on an entirely new plan, the payments to cease in the event of the death of the Borrower, and the property to be handed over to his family, or representatives, free and unencumbered.

6. The Savings' Bank and Assurance-Loan Branches combined, by which Depositors in Savings' Banks and intending Members of Building Societies, may invest their funds so as to secure the Assurance of a given sum in the event of death, and at the same time employ them for the purchase of property during life. This system supersedes Building Societies—superior Savings' Banks.

7. A person may choose any age for entry, by paying the value of the difference between his own and the chosen age, in one sum.

RICHARD HODSON, Secretary.

OFFICES: 15 and 16, ADAM STREET, ADELPHI, LONDON.

THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES: their Character and Organization. Translated from the Swedish of P. A. SILGESTROM, M.A., by FREDERICA ROWAN. Post 8vo, 10s. 6d. [Next Wednesday.]

THE WESTMINSTER REVIEW,
New Series, No. VI.

- I. British Philanthropy and Jamaica Distress.
- II. Thackeray's Works.
- III. Iconoclasm in German Philosophy.
- IV. Martial and his Times.
- V. French Writers on French Policy.
- VI. Ruth and Villette.
- VII. Educational Institutions of the United States.
- VIII. Poems, by Alexander Smith.
- IX. Early Christianity, its Creeds and Heresies.
- X. Contemporary Literature of England.
- XI. Contemporary Literature of America.
- XII. Contemporary Literature of Germany.
- XIII. Contemporary Literature of France.

"We can honestly say that the sixth number of the *Westminster* is not inferior to the other five, all of which were excellent."—*Examiner*.
"The new number of the *Westminster* is a remarkable one."—*Leader*.

John Chapman, 142, Strand.

On the 30th,

NORTH BRITISH REVIEW,
No. XXXVII., May, 1853, price 6s., contains:—

- I. MacGillivray's British Birds.
- II. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND THE PRINCIPLES OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY.
- III. BUNSEN'S HIPPOLYTUS: ITS METHOD AND RESULTS.
- IV. ENGLISH HEXAMETERS.
- V. RUTH: THE REIGN OF FEMALE NOVELISTS.
- VI. MEMOIRS OF FRENCH PROTESTANTISM.
- VII. LORENZO BRUNO: LIFE UNDER AN ITALIAN DESPOTISM.
- VIII. GLIMPS OF POETRY.
- IX. THE HIGHER INSTRUCTION AND ITS REPRESENTATIONS IN SCOTLAND.
- X. WELLINGTON IN THE PENINSULA: LARPERT'S JOURNAL.
- XI. LAYARD'S ASSYRIAN DISCOVERIES.

Edinburgh: W. P. Kennedy.

London: Hamilton, Adams, and Co. Dublin: J. M'Glashan.

THE BRITISH QUARTERLY REVIEW,
No. XXXIV., (Price 6s.) will be published on the 2nd of May.

CONTENTS.

1. Mysticism—Madame Guyon.
2. The Study of Natural History.
3. Old German Story-Books.
4. Mortmain Law and Charitable Bequests.
5. French Memoirs from 1700.
6. India and its Government.
7. Bunsen and his Critics.
8. Effect of the Discoveries of Gold.
9. America—its Cosmopolitan Relations.
10. Our Epilogue on Affairs and Books.

London: Jackson and Walford, 18, St. Paul's Churchyard; and Simpkin, Marshall, and Co., Stationers' Hall Court.

On May 2nd will be published, Part I. of

MR. PARKER'S NEW MAGAZINE,

THE NATIONAL MISCELLANY.
A NEW MONTHLY PERIODICAL OF GENERAL LITERATURE.

On the 2nd of May it is designed to commence the publication of a new Monthly Periodical, to be entitled "The National Miscellany." As its name imports, it will be a Magazine of General Literature, giving itself free range over every subject likely to be of general interest.

"The National Miscellany" is an attempt to supply high-principled and a high-toned Literature of a secular kind, which may be safely taken up by thoughtful persons when their more serious reading is over, and which may also indirectly act for good on those who thrust all religious works aside.

It will be issued in Shilling Monthly Parts, and the type and paper will be of a superior kind.

All communications and books for review must be addressed to the Editor, under cover to Mr. Parker, 377, Strand.

London: John Henry Parker, 377, Strand.

On the 30th inst. will be published, price One Shilling, the Fifteenth Number of

BLEAK HOUSE. By CHARLES DICKENS. With Illustrations by HAMILTON K. BROWN. To be completed in 20 Numbers, uniform with "David Copperfield," &c. Bradbury and Evans, 11, Bouverie Street.

THE LONDON MAIL for India, Australia, and the Colonies, will be ready for delivery at Eleven o'clock in the forenoon of Monday, the 25th instant. News Agents must send for the copies they may require to the "London Mail" Office, No. 10, Crane Court, Fleet Street. London, 22nd April, 1853.

ART-UNION OF LONDON.—The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, to receive the Council's Report and to distribute the amount subscribed for the purchase of Works of Art, will be held at the Theatre Royal, Lyceum, (by the kind permission of Charles Mathews, Esq.) on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at Eleven for Twelve o'clock precisely. The receipt for the current year will be procured admission.

GEO. GODWIN, } Hon. Secs.
LEWIS POCOCK, }

444, West Strand, April 16.

THE COMMITTEE of the TESTIMONIAL to Mr. G. J. HOLYOAKE will hold a Special Meeting in the Coffee Room of the Literary and Scientific Institution, John Street, Fitzroy Square, on Wednesday, 4th of May, to make final arrangements for the presentation of the Testimonial. Persons yet desiring List-papers will please apply to Mr. Turley, at the above address. The Lists returnable by April 30th.

W. TURLEY, Secretary.
J. WATSON, Treasurer.

MR. COLLIER'S NEW TEXT OF SHAKESPEARE.

Now ready, in One Volume, super-royal 8vo, 21s. cloth, gilt; 42s. in morocco, by Hayday; handsomely printed in a clear, readable type, with Portrait, Vignette, and Fac-simile,

THE PLAYS OF SHAKESPEARE:

The Text regulated by the Old Copies,

AND BY THE RECENTLY DISCOVERED FOLIO OF 1632;

Containing early Manuscript Emendations.

EDITED BY J. PAYNE COLLIER, ESQ., F.S.A.

LONDON: WHITTAKER AND CO., AVE MARIA LANE.

DEDICATED, BY PERMISSION, TO HER MAJESTY.

On Saturday, the 30th April, 1853, will be published, price 6d., No. I. of

THE ENGLISH CYCLOPEDIA.

A New Dictionary of Universal Knowledge.

BASED ON THE "PENNY CYCLOPEDIA."

AND ILLUSTRATED WITH MANY HUNDRED WOOD ENGRAVINGS.

CONDUCTED BY MR. CHARLES KNIGHT.

MODE OF PUBLICATION.

THE "ENGLISH CYCLOPEDIA" will be published in Four Divisions, each having its own alphabetical arrangement, and each forming, when complete, four distinct volumes.

GEOGRAPHY. 4 vols. | SCIENCES AND ARTS. 4 vols.
NATURAL HISTORY. 4 vols. | HISTORY, BIOGRAPHY, LITERATURE, &c. 4 vols.

Two Divisions will be published at the same time; and on their completion the others will immediately follow. The work will be issued in Weekly Numbers and Monthly Parts.

In the Weekly Numbers the Two Divisions will be published alternately, each containing on the average thirty-six pages of letter-press, stitched in a wrapper, price 6d. Thus, one week, a Number of Geography will be issued; the next, a Number of Natural History, and so on; and, as each will be in a distinct wrapper, either Division may be purchased separately.

In the Monthly Part, the Two Divisions will proceed together, comprising 144 pages of print, in a wrapper, price 2s. The space allotted to each Division will be equal in each part.

The Work will be completed in about 65 Parts, or 260 Weekly Numbers. Every four months a Volume will be published, neatly bound in cloth, and containing about 600 pages. The Work will commence with GEOGRAPHY and NATURAL HISTORY.

. Prospectuses may be had by applying to the Publishers, or to any Bookseller in town or country.

BRADBURY AND EVANS, 11, BOUVERIE STREET.

CHEAP EDITION OF SIR E. BULWER LYTTON'S NOVELS AND TALES.

Next week, price 2s. cloth. With a Frontispiece.

LEILA; or, THE SIEGE OF GRANADA.

By SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON, Bart., M.P.

Also, in a few days, price 6s.

SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON'S POETICAL AND DRAMATIC WORKS.

Vol. III.

London: Chapman and Hall, 193, Piccadilly.

READING FOR TRAVELLERS.—NEW VOLUME.

Price 1s. 6d.

MONTENEGRO AND THE SLAVONIANS OF TURKEY.

By COUNT VALERIAN KRASINSKI,

Author of "The Religious History of the Slavonic Nations."

Recently Published.

THE VILLAGE DOCTOR. 1s.

FRANKLIN'S FOOTSTEPS: a Sketch of Greenland. 1s. 6d.

MAGIC AND WITCHCRAFT. 1s.

OLD ROADS AND NEW ROADS. 1s.

London: Chapman and Hall, 193, Piccadilly.

Just published, price Three Shillings, bound in cloth, post free,

THE THREADS OF A STORM SAIL.

By W. BLANCHARD JERROLD.

Written at the suggestion of the Directors of the Birkbeck Life Assurance Company, and may be had at the Company's Offices, 8, Moorgate Street, and of all Booksellers.

Recently published, in foolscap 8vo, emblematic cloth, with Illustrations, price 6s. 6d.

THE SCARLET BOOK: showing the Connection of the Roman Catholic Ceremonies with the Pagan Rites; with an Account of the Bishops and Popes of Rome from A.D. 60, with an Appendix of Occurrences brought down to the French in Rome in 1853; and an Explanation of the Revelation of St. John the Divine as it applies to Modern Events. By the Author of the "Reply to Cardinal Wiseman's Manifesto."

Piper, Brothers, and Co., Paternoster Row.

This day, Folscap Octavo, price 7s. 6d.

THE POEMS OF GOETHE, Translated in the Original Metres. By EDGAR ALFRED BOWRING. Preceded by a Sketch of Goethe's Life.

Also, Translated by Mr. Bowring, 6s.

THE POEMS OF SCHILLER, Complete. London: John W. Parker and Son, West Strand.

On the 30th inst. will be published, price One Shilling, the Third Number of

HANDLEY CROSS; or, Mr. JORROCK'S HUNT. By the Author of "Mr. Sponge's Tour." Illustrated with Coloured Plates and numerous Woodcuts by JOHN LEECH, uniformly with "Sponge's Tour."

Bradbury and Evans, 11, Bouverie Street.

Just Published, price 3d., per post, 6d.

INDIA REFORM. No. 1.—The Government of India since 1834.—No. 2. The Finances of India.—No. 3. Notes on India, by Dr. HURST, will be ready on Monday, the 25th instant.—No. 4. The Native States of India, on Saturday, April 30th.

London: Saunders and Stanford, 6, Charing Cross; Manchester: Simms and Dinham; and all Booksellers and Railway Stations.

Now ready, 1 vol. 8vo, 700 pp., 7s. 6d.

LE GOUVERNEMENT DU DEUX DECEMBRE. Par V. SCHLACHER. Pour faire suite aux CRIMES DU DEUX DECEMBRE, par le Meme, 1 vol. 8vo, 6s. W. Jeffs, Foreign Bookseller, 15, Burlington Arcade.

CODDEN'S PAMPHLET. "1793 and 1853." A Cheap Edition of the above, published by the Peace Conference Committee, price 2d. each, or 12s. per 100 copies; also a handsome LIBRARY EDITION, with PREFACE BY THE AUTHOR. Demy 8vo, cloth lettered, price 1s. 6d.

London: W. and F. G. Cash, 5, Bishopsgate Street Without; and the Peace Society, 19, New Broad Street.

LONDON: Printed by GEORGE HOOPER, (of No. 3, Portland Place, Kensington, in the County of Middlesex,) at the Office of Messrs. SAVILE and EDWARDS, No. 4, Chandos Street, in the Parish of St. Paul, Covent Garden, in the same County; and Published by THORNTON LEIGH HURST, (of Broadway House, Hammer Smith,) at THE LEADER OFFICE, No. 7, WELLINGTON STREET, STRAND, in the Precinct of the Savoy, both in the same County.—SATURDAY, April 23, 1853.